

THE TIMES

No 61,717 TUESDAY DECEMBER 20 1983 20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

House...
Full details of the rate-capping Bill

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What to do with caviare by The Times cook

Bells...
Wednesday Page looks at the upsurge in obscene telephone calls, with advice on how to deal with them

... books...
The Booker Prize: Miles Kington on how to a kill a party-time conversation

... and Candleford
Lark Rise to Candleford: Spectrum on the making of a best-seller out of the book by Flora Thompson (below)





Royal couple visit youngest victim as Brittan steps up security

Newman puts 700 more police on bomb watch

● More police are to be deployed on anti-terrorist duties in central London, in the wake of the Harrods bombing

● The Prince and Princess of Wales went to two hospitals to visit those of the injured who were well enough to see them

● Harrods opened at 9 am as usual, but there were fewer customers than are normally expected on the Monday before Christmas (Page 2)

● Police believe the IRA may have reserved a space for the car bomb by parking another car there earlier

● Mr Prior, on US television, exposed the misconception that Americans' cash went to IRA freedom fighters. "It goes to buy arms" Page 2

● Mr Gerry Adams, president of Provisional Sinn Fein, denied a rift between the military and political wings of the republican movement Page 2

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Police vehicles patrolling 24 hours a day to respond specifically to bomb threats anywhere in Metropolitan London, and more dog handlers, traffic police and foot patrols, were among the new safety measures announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, in the wake of the Harrods bombing on Saturday in which five people were killed and 93 injured.

Mr Brittan, who earlier consulted the Prime Minister and Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, also told MPs that ministers were urgently considering whether membership of Provisional Sinn Fein should be made illegal. But he said that there were powerful arguments on either side of that question.

Mr Brittan told an impressively united Commons that Sir Kenneth's measures for the public's greater protection would include 64 more dog handlers, 30 more traffic branch police officers, and 320 more uniformed foot duty officers deployed in the inner districts; an increase of 200 in the number of CID and Special Branch officers in central London; four more special patrol groups, totalling 120 officers, in the inner districts.

Mr Brittan added that particular care had also been taken to ensure that policing against terrorist threats was fully maintained elsewhere in the London area.

The possible proscription of Sinn Fein was one of several questions briefly considered when Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr Brittan and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, met for 40 minutes at 10 Downing Street.

Mrs Thatcher asked for the arguments tro be set out again for the Cabinet, which at its weekly meeting on Thursday is expected to review the whole range of possible political and physical measures to contain the threat of Irish Republican violence.

Despite this, the impression at Westminster yesterday was that proscription is not likely to be introduced. Mr Prior is convinced that Sinn Fein politicians would be able to use it to further their cause.

He has argued that the party would say that the Government, having challenged it to seek endorsement at the polls, was afraid of its success. At the same time, its members would reappear under different lables.

Mr Prior's view received strong support in the House yesterday from Mr Merlyn Rees, who has been in charge of both the Northern Ireland Office and the Home Office.

Mr Rees's advice was that there should be not panic. He had legalized Sinn Fein (in 1974) because there had to be left "a chink for political action". He advised also against detention of suspected terrorists, saying that there had been more murders when there was detention, and against introducing identity cards. The first had been suggested by Mr Julian Amery, from the Conservative benches; the second by Mr Russell Johnston, the Liberal spokesman.

Mr Brittan in his statement to the Commons said that public vigilance was essential to give full effect to the increased security measures. He promised that everything possible was being done to bring the criminals to justice. And he spoke of the nauseating hypocrisy of the IRA statement in Dublin on Sunday which professed regret for the civilian casualties.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Labour spokesman, decided that the clearest demonstration of support for the efforts of the police and the Home Secretary was to ask no questions.

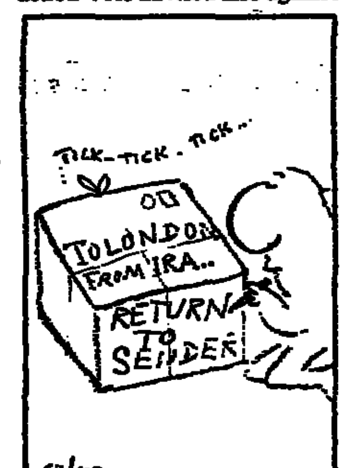
Mr Kaufman was as scornful as Mr Brittan of the IRA, "evil men who, characteristically and contemptibly, seek to creep away from the consequences of their inhumanity". MPs and the people they represented were united in their determination to stand against them, and would make no concession to the bullet and the bomb.

Like Mr Brittan, Mr Kaufman appeared to speak for everyone in the Chamber.

Few political points were made. Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, lamented "the failure of Britain and Ireland to sort out their relationship". That failure, he said, had been pushed into a corner called Northern Ireland from which a political cancer was spreading its tentacles.

Mr Brittan said that Mr Hume was right to draw attention to the wider dimension, but it was right to make clear that what happened on Saturday would do nothing towards a solution.

The Prime Minister's husband, Mr Denis Thatcher, went christmas shopping at Harrods yesterday and said: "No damned Irish murderer is going to stop me going there." He returned to Downing Street carrying two of the store's distinctive green bags packed with presents.



Judge jails child sex man

Judge Brian Gibbens sentenced a man who had intercourse with a friend's daughter, aged seven, to two years' imprisonment "to mark the enormity of the crime". The judge, who is 71, claimed he was misreported in his reference last Friday to the offence as "an accident". The Lord Chancellor has asked for a transcript of Friday's proceedings Page 3

Challenge over cancelled rig

British Shipbuilders' Scott Lithgow yard will challenge yesterday's cancellation by a Britoil-led consortium of an £86m oil rig which had fallen 500 days behind schedule. Labour MPs pressed for an emergency debate on the matter Page 25

Europe's cash

The EEC's £15.5bn budget, approved by the Parliament last week, will be adopted today as the Council of Ministers lodges a last-minute protest Page 5

Pay-cut theory

A reduction of 10 per cent in teenagers' average wages could create an extra 70,000 to 100,000 jobs for young people, a research paper says Page 2

Eagle-eyed

Washington is preparing a review of Soviet violations of arms control agreements to be presented to Congress early in the new year Page 5

Jobless 'decline'

Unemployment no longer seems to be rising and may even be falling, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, told the Commons Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee.

Habsburg theory

Crown Prince Rudolf, believed to have committed suicide with his lover at Mayerling, Austria, in 1889, was murdered according to Habsburg family papers Page 5

Transplant fear

The condition of Mr Lars Ljungberg, aged 32, Britain's first heart-lung transplant patient, was causing "grave concern", doctors at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, said.

Spy chief quits

Mr John Ryan, Australia's espionage chief, has resigned after a bungled training exercise when agents wearing carnival masks ran amuck in a Melbourne hotel Page 6

Youngest victim: The Princess of Wales at St Thomas's Hospital yesterday, chatting to Rajan Parmar, aged five, whose leg was injured in the Harrods bomb attack.

I apologize on behalf of London, says prince

By Alan Hamilton

The Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday went to two London hospitals to visit victims of Saturday's Knightsbridge bomb attack. Prince Charles told one American casualty: "I apologize on behalf of London. It was terrible."

Fifteen members of the public and five police officers were still being cared for in four London hospitals yesterday. Two of the policemen remain in critical condition.

Inspector Stephen Dodd was said to be "critical but stable" on a life support machine at the Central Middlesex Hospital. PC John Gordon, a dog handler, was said to be "poor but stable" at the Westminster Hospital and a special kidney unit has been brought in from RAF Halton to help stem a deteriorating kidney complaint.

PC Gordon lost his right leg in the blast as he approached the car bomb with his sniffer dog, Queenie. His wife, who is seven months pregnant, said yesterday that the incident had been "an absolute nightmare".

The condition of Sergeant Andrew Melham, in the intensive care unit of St Thomas's Hospital, was reported to "stable". Sergeant Christopher Stanger and PC Martyn Holgate, the other two officers still detained, were both described as "very comfortable".

At Westminster Hospital the royal couple met Mr Mark McDonald, an American geologist who was one of the most seriously injured civilians. Mr McDonald, now out of intensive care, was joined by his parents from Michigan. His mother, Mrs Audrey McDonald, said: "It is tremendous to get this royal support. The princess obviously felt great sympathy for all those who were injured."

The prince and princess had a brief private meeting with PC Gordon before meeting other civilians, including Mr Robert Brown, a stockbroker who suffered a broken arm and severe shrapnel wounds.

At St Thomas's Hospital Sergeant Melham was too ill to see the royal couple, but they met PC Holgate, recovering from his third bomb incident. He was 200 yards away from the bomb which cut down the Household Cavalry last year and was among the officerts who found last week's unexploded bomb near Kensington High Street.

● Some bomb victims would be "totally maimed for life", a consultant orthopaedic surgeon at the Wesminster Hospital, Mr Paul Aichroth, said yesterday. Even with artificial limbs, their lives would never be the same (the Press Association reports).

Arafat prepares for dawn evacuation

From Robert Fisk, Tripoli, northern Lebanon

Mr Vassir Arafat's 4,000 guerrillas under siege in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli prepared for a dawn evacuation today. The five Greek ships which are to take them to Tunisia, Algeria and North Yemen left Cyprus for Lebanon last night with an escort of five French warships, including the aircraft carrier, "Clemenceau"

Despite the lachrymose predictions of Mr Arafat that the Israel Navy would block his men's evacuation, Israeli gunboats which have been shelling Tripoli withdrew southwards down the coast in mid-afternoon, to permit the 10 vessels to enter the harbour.

Yesterday evening the grey-painted hulk of the Cypriot merchant coaster My Charm still lay smouldering alongside Tripoli's No 2 quay yesterday, her bridge and superstructure congealed on to the burnt decks where an Israeli shell had smashed into her.

On the other side of the wharf an already-damaged vessel had sunk miserably on to the seabed during the early morning shelling, her masts awash just north of the harbour.

Earlier, Mr Arafat had learnt that the latest Israeli naval bombardment of Tripoli – the sixth in 10 days – had prompted the Greek Government to seek further guarantees for the safety of their five evacuation ships, not only from Israel and France but from America and Syria as well.

"I was with the Greek Ambassador in the harbour", Mr Arafat said. "We noted (sic) by ourselves when they shelled the harbour with great bombs. I asked our friends (the Greeks) to delay the arrival for some hours."

Mr Arafat also insisted that his guerrillas would be handing over their heavy weapons – anti-aircraft guns, recoilless rifles and Katyusha rocket batteries – to the Lebonese internal security force, the paramilitary Gendarmerie which now has more than 500 men in position around the port in readiness for the evacuation. He denied that he had ever thought of taking these weapons with him.

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Baghdad (Reuter) – Mr Donald Rumsfeld, US Middle East Envoy, arrived unexpectedly in Baghdad yesterday, for the first visit to Iraq by a senior U.S. official for 16 years.

Mr Rumsfeld was met at Baghdad airport by the head of the protocol of the Foreign Ministry.

He flew in from Riyadh, where he had talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Foreign Minister.

Nakasone will have narrow majority

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, looked certain last night to have a narrow working majority after the sharp rebuff to his Liberal Democratic Party in Sunday's general election. The turnout was the lowest since the Second World War.

It was clear that Mr Nakasone would take enough Independents into his party to assure LDP control of the premiership. At least nine of the 16 Independents elected on Sunday are conservative politicians sympathetic to, or with past affiliations with, the ruling party.

His party won 250 seats in the 511-member Lower House, six less than a majority and 36 fewer than before the election. The biggest Opposition party, the Japanm Socialists, took 112 seats, compared with 101 at dissolution.

But the most satriking progress was made by the Komeito (Clean Party), with 58 seats against a previous total of 34.

Mr Kakuei Tanaka, the former premier whose refusal to resign his seat after being convicted in the Lockheed bribery scandal caused the election was returned by a landslide in his rural constituency.

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Leading article, page 11

Two cars theory in hunt for Harrods killers

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The Provisional IRA unit which killed five people at Harrods may have reserved a space for their car bomb by parking another vehicle in the row of parking bays alongside the store hours before the explosion.

Yesterday, hundreds of policeman, backed by a £250,000 reward offer, continued the search for the bombers, Commander William Hucklesby, head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squard, said he was now considering the theory that two cars could have been used. A similar system is known to have been used by IRA bombers in the past.

Mr Hucklesby said the first car would have been driven into Hans Crescent some time on Saturday morning and parked at a meter. Just after midday the Austin 1300 GT arrived and took its place. The driver of the Austin may have set the timing device on the bomb and been driven away in the other car.

Police now know, from one of the policemen in a police car which pulled up behind the Austin before it exploded, that the 1300 was parked in the wrong direction, facing towards Brompton Road. The crescent is one-way.

The Yard hopes members of the public in the crescent may have seen the exchange. It is also possible that details of parked cars could have been kept by traffic wardens or police since the area is always subject to strict parking controls.

Yesterday Mr Hucklesby disclosed that the police have gone some way in tracing the Austin, which was originally registered in Leicester in 1972, and have interviewed two car dealers. The car, registration KFP 252K, was sold by one dealer to another just over a month ago in London.

Mr Hucklesby said the second dealer sold the car from his showroom and police are still trying to discover what happened to it between then and last Saturday.

As statements come in from Harrods staff, the staff of other shops in Hans Crescent and the hundreds of people shopping there on Saturday, the Yard has brought in a large desk-top computer to keep pace with the detail from witnesses. Since Saturday a staff of more than two dozen has been working round the clock to keep pace with the flow of information manually and the computer will allow for their release elsewhere.

Assistant Commissioner Gilbert Kelland, head of London CID, said that the Yard had accepted the offer of a £250,000 reward made by an anonymous businessman for information leading to the capture of the bombers. Others who had made offers should consider putting their money into appeal funds being set up for the injured and relatives of the dead.

With nearly a tenth of London's detective force committed to the Harrods investigation, Scotland Yard is also being stretched by hoaxes. Parts of central London were again halted by false alarms yesterday.

At the weekend senior staff at the Yard began drawing up plans for the extra patrols announced by the Home Secretary yesterday. The normal eight-hour shifts have been extended to provide more manpower, and leave is likely to be cancelled.

The Yard has also asked motorists to consider not driving into central London this week and using public transport instead, so that the risk of suspected vehicles can be reduced.

In past years the Yard has responded to IRA campaigns by making the police presence on the streets of central London very visible. Yesterday there were already signs of an increasing number of foot patrols, with officers in twos and thees among shoppers and office staff in the West End and Whitehall.

Princess Caroline to marry

From Diana Geddes
Paris

Princess Caroline of Monaco, aged 26, is to marry Signor Stefano Casiraghi, 23-year-old son of an Italian businessman, Prince Ranier announced yesterday. The civil wedding, which will be a "strictly family affair", will take place in the royal palace in Monte Carlo on December 29.

The couple, who have known one another for three years, but only closely for the past six months, had both wanted a church wedding. But Princess Caroline failed to obtain the necessary papal annulment of her previous marriage to M Philippe Junot, the international playboy, which ended in divorce three years ago.

Signor Casiraghi is the youngest of four children of what is reputed to be one of the richest families in Italy, based in an early twentieth century 50-room palazzo in Fino Mornasco on the shore of Lake Como.

The Casiraghis also have a house at St Jean Cap Ferrat.

Marks & Spencer breaks with family tradition

By Derek Harris
Commerical Editor

Lord Sieff of Brimpton is stepping down as chairman of Marks & Spencer in July, making way for Lord Rayner, the man Mrs Thatcher called in to improve efficiency in Whitehall.

This means that for only the second time in the chain's 100-year history, the top man will not be a member of one of the founding families.

But Lord Sieff will remain as a director of the company and has accepted the post of president.

Lord Sieff is the grandson of Mr Michael Marks who, with Mr Thomas Spencer, founded the business in Leeds in 1884.

Born Marcus Sieff, the son of the late Lord Sieff (formerly Israel Sieff), he was educated at Manchester Grammer School, St Paul's and Corpus Christi, Cambridge.

He joined the family business 48 years ago and was appointed to the board in 1955. He became chairman 11 years ago when the annual turnover was £417m. It is now £2,500m.

Services to exports earned him his knighthood in 1971 and he became a life peer in 1980. In 1976 he was Hambro's businessman of the year, and was presented with the International Retailer of the Year Award in New York earlier this year.



Lord Sieff (left) and his successor, Lord Raynor.

Now 70, he is in good health and shows no signe of reducing the pace that has made Marks & Spencer the most successful retailer in Britain.

Yesterday he was at his desk early, took a board meeting, went to a business lunch and, according to fellow directors, planned to go on his regular round of some of the stores.

He has described his methods like this: "It is not state visits. It is listen and learn at store level. It is the sales staff and supervisors who know what is going on."

Mr John Salisse, a fellow director, said of Lord Sieff yesterday: "He has terrific drive and leadership. The growth of the company has been phenomenal undr his leadership. He played a major role in getting the company into Europe and Canada."

The Sieff view has been that while Marks & Spencer may have grown into a formidable retailing chain, it must retain the point of view ofthe archetypla family shop, caring for staff and customers alike and taking price in what it sells.

One of the keys to its success is its willingness to experiemtn

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Pay cuts would create jobs for young people, report says

By Frances Williams

Cuts in young people's wages relative to adults' would substantially improve their job opportunities, according to an official research paper from the Employment Department, published yesterday.

It suggests that for every 1 per cent cut in the relative wages of young people employment would rise by 2 per cent for boys and 1.5 to 2 per cent for gilrs. A pay reduction of 10 per cent – equivalent to about £6 a week on present average earnings of about £60 for workers under 18 – could thus create between 70,000 and 100,000 extra jobs.

Only one int five of these additional jobs would be new, however. The remainder people, would directly replace adult workers.

The study's findings, which contrast with the failure of earlier research to discover any firm link between pay and jobs for young people, support ministers' claims that lowr wages would enable young people "to price them selves into work".

But they do not support the view that excessive wages are to blame for the steep rise in unemployment ratesamong teenagers since 1979. Their relative earnings have fallen slightly since the mid-1970s, the study says. But employment prospects have suffered disproportionately from the impact of recession.

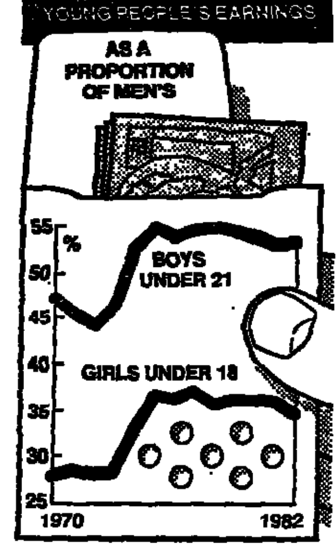
For every one per cent fall in overall employment the number of jobs available for young people drops by about 1.2 per cent, the department estimates and by more if special measures to relieve youth unemployment are discounted.

Officials said yesterday that earlier studies had failed to uncover the connexion between pay and jobs because they concentrated on the 1950s and 1960s when demand for labour was high and the relative wages of young people were low, although gradually rising. But from 1959 there was a sharp break in the pattern.

Between 1969 and 1977 boys' earnings as a proportion of men's jumped from 47 to 55 per cent while for girls the proportion rose from below 28 to 37 per cent. Unemployment rates among young people relative to adults soared from about average to more than three times the average.

Since 1977 the relative jobless rate has fallen to about twice the average

The relative pay and employment of young people (William Wells, Department of Employment Research Paper No 42).



£250m snag to sale of ordnance plants

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Government yesterday announced plans to reorganize the Royal Ordnance Factories, for which it may have to find £250m within the next year.

A Bill in the Commons yesterday will bring the 11 government-owned factories into a new organization under the Companies Act, thus paving the way for their privatization.

The policy is being resisted by the unions, and the trades unions yesterday announced plans to hold a one-day strike in January.

If the Bill is approved by Parliament, it is intended that the factories will be brought under their new status from October 1 next year. Employees would then cease to be civil servants, and among the provisions which would have to be made would be the transfer of funds to cover their accumulated pension rights. These could amount to £250m.

That would have to be especially found by the Government because Civil Service pensions are paid for from current funds, and there is no single pension fund from which the money could be transferred. That sum could turn out to be almost as much as will be raised later on by privatization.

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, said that the introduction of private capital could not begin before 1985. The Government may decide to retain a stake in the factories.

Bridge road 17 years old

The Severn bridge still retains its original 1966 road surface, and this is because of the immense difficulties of repair, a Labour MP said in the Commons last night.

Mr Roy Hughes, MP for Newport East, said that road engineers had told him that resurfacing the bridge would be one of the hardest jobs they could be given. But he added the warning: "This will have to be tackled one day."

Police life goes on at Chelsea station

By Alan Hamilton

On the roof of Chelsea police station, as on police stations all over London, the Union Jack flew at half mast yesterday in memory of the two officers killed by the Knightsbridge bomb.

Rarely, if ever, have the perils of the job struck so hard at a single station with two dead and thirteen injured, three of them critically.

As Monday morning's shift reported for work they found many officers who had been on duty almost continuously since Saturday afternoon. A sense of numbed shock still prevailed over all.

"You feel a sense of loss when any officer is killed, but when it is your own station it is the loss of friends", Chief Insp Peter Francis, who had been on duty for 36 of the past 48 hours, said.

"This is a big station with 200 officers, but we have a small manor, which makes us all very close. Men have been appearing from their days off and their holidays; it is almost impossible to get them to go home.

"One of the advantages of a major incident like this is that there is too much to do to sit around and dwell on it. But our civilian staff in particular are quite distraught at the tragedy."

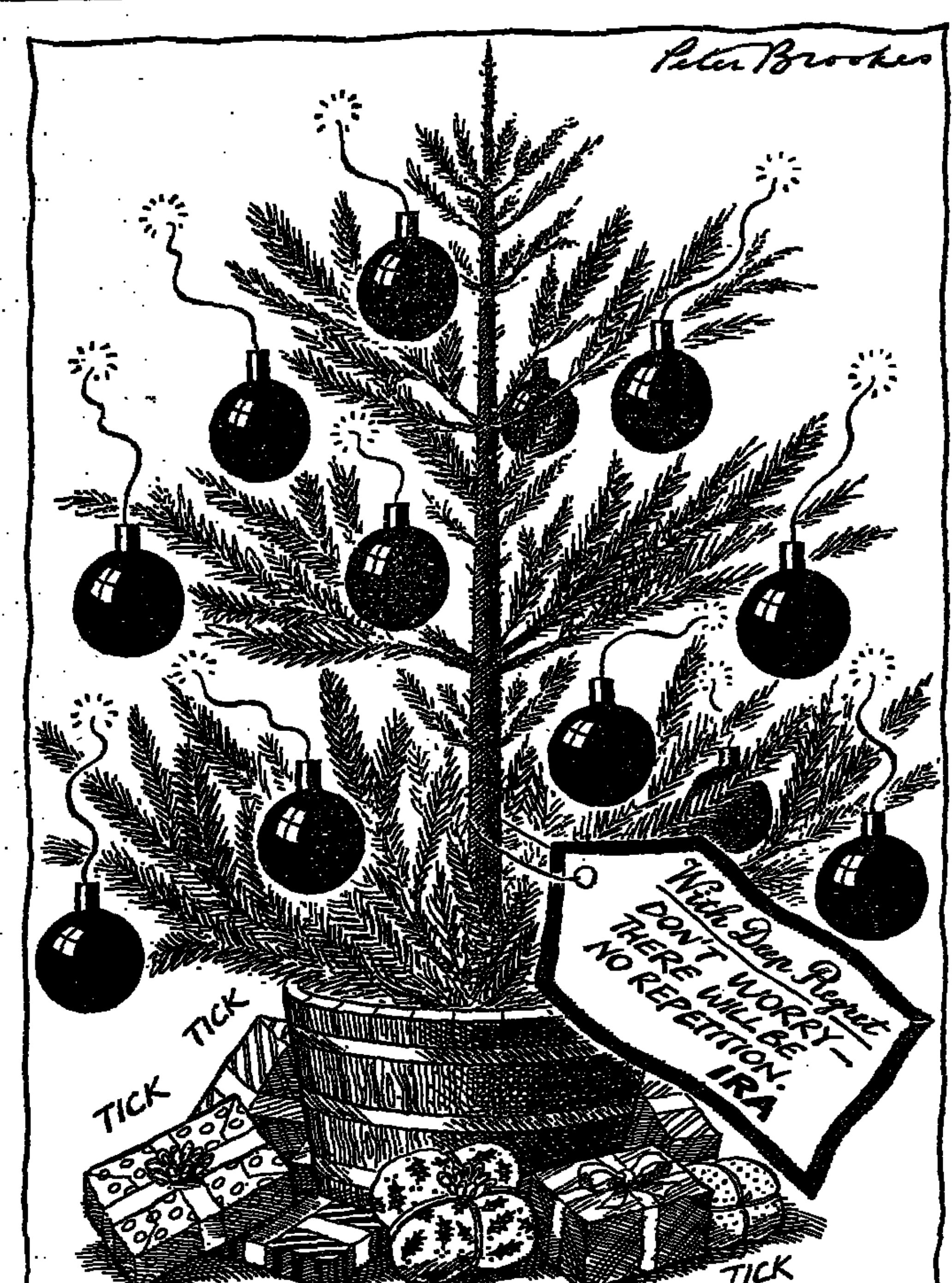
But the overiding feeling is one of determination. "We are carrying on as best we can", said one senior officer. "We cannot let the IRA succeed."

Superintendent Michael Hames, the station's deputy chief officer, shouldered the grim task on Saturday of visiting the families of the dead to break the news to them. The three critically injured officers are allowed only their families by their bedsides, but the station is constantly in touch with the hospitals on their progress.

Throughout the weekend the station has been inundated with telephone and personal calls from the public offering sympathy and cash donations for the bereaved families.

Among yesterday's callers was Mr Aleck Craddock, managing director of Harrods.

Of the two who died, Sergeant Noel Lane, aged 28, had moved from Streatham to Chelsea only two months ago on his promotion. WPC Jane Arbuthnot, aged 22, had been at Chelsea throughout her two-and-a-half-year career in the police.



Harrods back in business

By Richard Dowden

Harrods opened on the stroke of nine yesterday morning but despite a brave face from the staff it was not quite business as usual.

The store was not deserted, but for a Monday morning before Christmas it was very, very quiet. Customers who came did so almost out of defiance.

They included the Prime Minister's husband, Mr Denis Thatcher, who said: "No damned Irish murderer is going to stop me going there". He returned to Downing Street carrying two of the store's distinctive green bags packed with presents.

Mr Kenneth Hawksfield from Sussex, who has had an account at Harrods for more than 30 years, said he had no second thoughts about coming so soon after Saturday's bomb. "I do not think lightning strikes twice in the same place, but anyway I am not going to have my shopping upset like that", he said.

About 15 per cent of the store was closed but goods from those departments were available elsewhere. In the furniture department on the third floor there was a hum of vacuum cleaners and the occasional gritty click as a shard of glass was sucked up.

Outside glaziers were tapping at window frames and workmen were shovelling broken glass into a skip.

Mr Aleck Craddock, Harrods' managing director, said the bomb had cost the store more than £1m in damage and more in lost custom. But he added: "I am sure that customers will continue to come to Harrods. British people are like that." The store will be as normal as we can make it. We are going to make Harrods as Christmassy as possible."

Oxford Street, which was sealed off after a bomb scare on Saturday, was also relatively quiet. Police were patrolling in pairs every 20 yards. Security guards at some stores were searching handbags. Managers would not comment on the prospects for trade, but staff admitted they had never seen it so quiet.

Reaction to bombing

Prior asks US to cut IRA cash

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said yesterday that Americans could help enormously to fight terrorism internationally by giving no further help to Noraid, the IRA's fund-gathering organization, or other groups.

Speaking on the national breakfast television programme *Good Morning America*, Mr Prior said that one American had been killed and two others were injured in Saturday's car bomb explosion at Harrods in London.

"The fact is", he said, "there is a misconception among a number of people in the United States that they are supporting freedom fighters. They are doing nothing of the sort".

Mr Prior said money was being given in some cases on the basis that it was for widows and orphans.

"That is not what happens. It goes to buy arms to create the sort of attacks that have taken place in recent days."

Just before the broadcast began, the US interviewer, Barbara Walters, had asked Mr Prior if there was a particular question he wanted to answer. He specified Americans' attitude towards Noraid.

Mr Prior had a sharp reply to the IRA's apology over Saturday's attack. "That's what they always say when they carry out these attacks and they think it has been to their politcal advantage: they take the credit, but when something goes wrong and the reaction is one of shock and utter detestation, the IRA tries to dissociate itself from what happens."

● Mr Martin Galvin, Noraid's spokesman, said in New York last night about the Harrods blast: "I regret the loss of life, but many Irish people have been killed by British occupation forces. I recognize the moral superiority of the IRA over the British Government" (Christopher Thomas writes from New York).

Adams denies rift in republican ranks

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mr Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein, political wing of the Provisional IRA, yesterday denied there was a rift between the political and military wings of the movement.

He expressed regret for the Harrods bombing, but refused to condemn it.

But the MP for West Belfast said the organization never condoned civilian casualties, adding that the bomb was an example of an IRA operation that had "not gone right".

The admission by the Republican movement that the Harrods bombing had not been authorized by the "army council" is evidence that they have been embarrassed by the attack.

In both Dublin and Belfast, officials were expressing caution over calls to ban Provisional Sinn Fein. One official said: "It would give them a great Christmas bonus."

● *In* spite of Sinn Fein's recent electoral successes, the IRA will continue to attack British soldiers during the coming year, according to a senior member of the organization whose secret strategy speech was broadcast on Granada Television's World in Action programme last night (David Cross writes).

The IRA speaker told last month's annual conference of Sinn Fein delegates in Dublin: "Our military successes and our political progress are of equal importance."

Bomb-hoax caller jailed

John Michael Daly, aged 23, an interior decorator, of Uxendon Hill, Wembley, north London, was jailed for three months by Harrow magistrates yesterday after pleading guilty to making a bomb hoax call to Scotland Yard on Sunday night.

Also at Harrow, Gary Alan Coomber, aged 26, a London Transport cleaner, of Binyon Crescent, Stanmore, was remanded in custody until Friday charged with making a hoax call to British Telecom on Saturday.

In Bristol, Michael Freye, aged 19, a civil servant, and Andrew Hurley, aged 20, a barman, were remanded on bail until January 11 after admitting making a false call to a Bristol nightclub.

● Strathclyde police are holding nine men under the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act after raids in Glasgow over the past two days.

● *Geoffrey* Edwards, aged 25, a full-time private in the Ulster Defence Regiment, was charged in Belfast yesterday with the murder of Mr Peter Corrigan

Compromise agreed on electricity cost

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, confirmed in the Commons yesterday that the Electricity Council was looking at the possibility of a 2 per cent increase in domestic electricity prices next year and that an increase for industrial users was unlikely.

Four days after the Cabinet discussion on electricity prices, about which there were conflicting accounts, the shape of the compromise which it reached appeared to be agreed by all sides yesterday.

As reported in *The Times* on Friday, it was that instead of 3 per cent rise for domestic and industrial electricity, which the Treasury wanted, the Electricity Council should be asked to increase domestic prices by 2 per cent.

Mr Walker met Mr Philip Jones, the council's chairman, yesterday to inform him of what he later called in the Commons the Cabinet's suggestion. Mr Jones undertook to discuss it with his 14 area chairmen and to report back to Mr Walker next month.

But Mr Walker made it clear to MPs that if Mr Jones said that the council did not want to put up prices, the Government did not plan legislation to compel it to do so.

If that happened it is clear that the only way Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor could get his way would be by increasing the sum it requires from the industry in loan repayments.

In the Commons, Labour MPs exploited the Cabinet division over the issue. Mr Stanley Orme, from the opposition front bench, said that Mr Walker should resign. But Mr Walker won backing from Mr David Rowell, a former energy minister whom Mrs Thatcher dropped from the Cabinet afer the election.

Parliamentary report, page 4

NGA can have cash to pay benefits

Commissioners holding National Graphical Association (NGA) funds seized for the union's contempt of court in the *Stockport Messenger* dispute are to be given permission to release enough money to allow the union to pay sickness and hardship benefits.

Mr Justice Eastham, the High Court judge who ordered the sequestration of the NGA's assets of an estimated £10m, said yesterday, however, that the commissioners had "quite rightly" required money the union had exported to Dublin to be reimported to England.

He was speaking in the High Court in Manchester, where the NGA's counsel, Mr Terence Rigby, yesterday applied for an application, asking for the terms of the writ of sequestration to be relaxed, to be adjourned.

Mr Rigby told the court the application for an adjournment to allow discussions to take place between the union and the commissioners was made with the consent of the commissioners' counsel. Discussions would be taking place about disclosure of information about the union's assets, he said.

The judge, adjourning the application *Sine Die*, said he was "slightly unhappy" that an agreement had not already been reached. He said the court was anxious if possible to ensure that the union had sufficient funds exempt from the sequestration order to enable it to pay such things as sickness and retirement benefits "which at the moment of course they are not able to do."

The judge said the matter was going to be the subject of discussions between the commissioners and the union. He said: "The commissioners for example, quite rightly require that the money exported to Dublin should be reimported to England. That will be one of the many matters to be discussed."

By-election allegations dismissed

Allegations that Mr David Maclean, Conservative MP for Penrith, was guilty of incurring illegal election expenses were dismissed by a High Court judge yesterday as "wholly misconceived".

Rejecting a claim by Lieutenant Commander Eric Morgan, aged 73, the "Liberal, Labour, Co-op" candidate in the Penrith by-election in July, that the poll was void, Mr Justice Comyn said that his numerous complaints had been "magnified out of all proportion".

An accusation that Lord Whitelaw, who held the seat before entering the Lords, was guilty of "undue influence" and had impeded the election was, the judge said, "an enormous impertinence which should never have appeared, even in a misconceived petition such as this".

Mr Morgan, of Hollows, Matterdale, Cumbria, now faces a bill, likely to be several thousand pounds, for Mr Maclean's legal costs.

Oil pollution report

The Government said yesterday it was in overall agreement with the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution's report, on sea pollution submitted in late 1981.

The report concluded that, while current levels of marine oil pollution were unlikely to cause permanent damage, minimizing the severe short-term effects of large spills and their prevention could be improved.

£293m for Wales

Welsh local authorities will receive about £293m for capital expenditure in 1984-85, compared with £298m this year, but the Government will withhold about £19m in case capital spending this year exceeds cash limits.

Pit to close

The Wyndham-Western colliery, near Pontypridd, south Wales, is to close. It has not been producing coal since last September and most of the 450 men have transferred to other collieries.

Jumbo crossword

The Times Jumbo Christmas crossword will appear on Saturday December 24. Newsagents may wish to order extra supplies to ensure that regular readers can order a copy.

Women PCs 'minimize' psychology

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Policewomen see less value in using psychological techniques in policing than male police officers, the British Psychological Society was told yesterday.

The finding, which was described as surprising by Mr Peter Ainsworth of the department of social administration at the Manchester University, may be due to the women believing they need a tough, ruthless approach to do well in male-dominated police forces, he suggested.

Alternatively they may rely on a traditional female "intuitive" approach, so they believe formal psychological techniques have little to offer.

The findings presented to the societie's conference in London come from a relatively small study involving four police forces and 167 male and 23 female officers.

Under 14 per cent of the male officers thought psychology was of little practical use in policing, against more than 43 per cent of the women.

Far fewer of the women officers believed that psychology had something to offer in crowd and riot control, in dealing with domestic disturbances, in community relations or in training generally, the survey found.

Equal start

Black children are as numerate and literate as white children when they first go to primary school, despite evidence that they do worse at school than white children as they grow older, the conference was told.

Evidence from a study in which more than 340 children are being followed up to the age of seven in inner London schools was presented by Dr Peter Blatchford of the London University Institute of Education.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 160; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 180; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.50; Yugoslavia Din 100

Genetic engineering: 2

Early diagnosis of hereditary defects

In the second article of his series on genetic engineering, CLIVE COOKSON describes how medical researchers can diagnose inherited disease by *identifying the faulty genes* responsible.

Since last year, two British teams have been using genetic engineering to detect serious hereditary defects in foetuses just eight weeks old.

Their work depends on identifying and copying a piece of DNA (genetic material) that corresponds to a particular faulty gene. This DNA is called a probe because it is used in the laboratory analysis of foetal cells to pick out just that one gene from millions of others.

Dr Bernadette Modell, of the department of obstretics at University College Hospital, London, is working with Professor David Weatherall, of Oxford University, to diagnose thalassaemia, a serious blood disorder found among people of Mediterranean origin. They have carried out about 25 diagnoses, some as early as six weeks, allowing the mother to have a simple early abortion if her foetus has inherited the single faulty gene responsible for the disease.

The second group includes Mr Charles Rodeck, an obstretic surgeon at King's College Hospital Medical School, London, and Dr John Gosden and Dr Christine Gosden, a husband and wife team from the Medical Research Council's clinical and population cytogenetics unit, Edinburgh. They are not looking for a single defective gene but are detecting male foetus by a sequence of DNA found only on the Y sex Chromosome (girls have two X chromosomes and boys one X and one Y).

Their patients are women whose family history shows that they are carrying a sex-linked genetic defect on an X chromosome. Boys stand a 50 per cent chance of inheriting the faulty X chromosome and therefore of developing the disease, but girls are not affected because their second X chromosome can compensate for any fault in the first. Duchenne muscular dystrophy is the most common such disease.

The technique is about twice as fast as the conventional method of foetal sexing, in which foetal cells are cultured and the whole Y chromosome detected by microscope. The mother is therefore offered an abortion at the earliest possible moment if she is carrying a male foetus.

The tissue for such early genetic analysis comes from "chorionic villi" tiny fibres that connect the foetus to the uterus in early pregnancy. A single one of the 10,000 or so villi can be detached, using high resolution ultrasound guidance, and removed through the cervix and vagina without discomfort to the patient.

The researchers believe that the process does not harm the foetus (after it is properly implanted in the womb most villi wither away). Although there have been a few miscarriages afterwards, these might have occurred anyway, since spontaneous abortions are common in early pregnancy.

But Professor Weatherall emphasizes that the safety is still not proven. "We want a five-year psychiatric and paediatric follow-up on these babies", he said. "Our own plan with Dr Bernadette Modell is to do 50 to 100 cases and then sit back and evaluate how good we are."

The world's medical geneticists hope that the procedure does turn out to be safe, because the alternative source of foetal DNA is from amniocentesis in the middle of pregnancy. If an abortion turns out to be necessary, doing it so late is obviously far more traumatic for the parents and may be unacceptable ethically.

Until this year some blood disorders were the only serious hereditary diseases whose precise genetic origin was known and for which, therefore, reliable DNA probes could be made. Prenatal diagnosis of other defects was either impossible or depended on unpleasant tests later in pregnancy.

An international scientific effort is now under way to link other congenital abnormalities to specific pieces of DNA, known as markers, and eventually to fix the position on particular chromosomes of all 10 million human genes.

Two American successes have been reported within the past month. Most Spectacular is a marker for Huntington's disease, which causes mental deterioration during early middle age, ending in a demented death. The other achievement is a DNA probe for Phenylketonuria (PKU), a metabolic disorder that leads to mental retardation in certain children unless they follow a rigid diet.

Probes for other diseases associated with single gene defects should follow within a very few years.

As gene probes become available for more congenital abnormalities, the National Health Service will have to devote greater resources to prenatal screening if the general population is to benefit from the technology.

Next: Genetic manipulation of plants, animals . . . and humans.

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Judge jails child sex man for two years and says he was misreported

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, has called for the transcript of the proceedings in which a senior judge at the Central Criminal Court said that he felt sympathy for a man with a drink problem who admitted having intercourse with a friend's daughter, aged seven.

When Judge Brian Gibbens, aged 71, yesterday jailed the man, William Watson-Sweeney, for two years, "to mark the enormity of the crime", he criticized reports of the case in Saturday's newspapers.

He said that after seeing *The Times*, he decided, as there was such "gross distortion" of what he had said and meant, that he would avoid reading any other papers, to avoid prejudicing his sentencing yesterday.

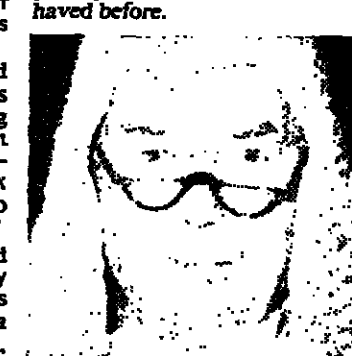
Judge Gibbens was reported on Saturday in *The Times* as saying: "It strikes me as being one of the kind of accidents that could almost happen to anyone." The headline was: "Sex with children could happen to anyone accidently, judge says."

The judge told the crowded court yesterday that he actually said: "This is of course a serious offence, offending against a little child, but it strikes me, without belittling the offence, it is one of the kind of accidents which happen in life to almost anyone – although of a wholly different kind."

He told the court that he had called for an official shorthand transcript to check what he actually said. As Watson-Sweeney was not to be sentenced until yesterday the matter was *sub judice*.

Judge Gibbens added that he was referring what he called "gross violation" of the *sub judice* rule to the Attorney General for possible contempt of court proceedings.

Judge Gibbens said that he had always regarded Watson-Sweeney's case as serious and denied saying that anyone could accidentally molest a child. He said he hoped the press would make amends by pointing out that the defendant was not a paedophile and had not misbehaved before.


Judge Brian Gibbens: Lord Chancellor asks for transcript.

He told Watson-Sweeney, aged 35, of Vernon Road, Guildford, Surrey: "I must send you to prison to mark the enormity of the crime. It is obvious from your remorse and horror you are never likely to do it again. This persuades me that I can treat you with less severity."

In Watson-Sweeney's case, he said, it was an unexpected, unpremeditated and sudden crime. By his own fault his life had been knocked to pieces.

When the child first went indoors with Watson-Sweeney he had no indecent intention and a game with her got out of hand. The judge said that the girl was not harmed, no force was used and her virginity was still intact.

Everyone felt sorry for her and her family, Judge Gibbens said. However, he was not prepared to pass sentence by rule of thumb and made no apology for feeling compassion for anyone who had brought disaster and shame upon himself by a momentary lapse. Drink had prompted his disgusting behaviour.

Mr Jeremy Carter-Manning, for the defence, said that the main cause of the defendant's behaviour had been an alcohol problem which developed after he was wounded twice while serving in Northern Ireland with the Royal Corps of Signals.

Transferred to foot patrol: WPC Wendy de Launay.

WPC claims discrimination

A woman police constable was banned from regular patrols with a married male colleague because they worked too well together, an industrial tribunal in London was told yesterday.

PC Wendy de Launay is accusing the Metropolitan Police of sexual discrimination and victimization because of the ruling, which she claimed was made by Chief Supt Brian Wallace of the force's south-west traffic area.

Miss de Launay, aged 25, of Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey, said that after bringing the complaint she was transferred from her job in the traffic division to foot patrol in Fulham.

Mr David Pannick, representing Miss de Launay, told the tribunal that Mr Wallace made a general ruling that women police officers should never be given permanent patrols with married men.

Earlier this year he informed Miss de Launay, who had a high reputation and glowing reports of her ability, that she must give up her partnership with PC Trevor Attfield.

According to Mr Pannick, Mr Wallace told her: "When I see you two working together so well and happy I am jealous.

"Of course, if you were a man I would not have to make this decision if you had a face like the back of a bus it would be better. But you are both attractive people."

Mr Pannick said Mr Wallace had indicated that, although he did not believe the officers were having an affair, he thought one might start if they continued their partnership. "I have had you checked out", he is alleged to have said.

Mr Wallace is claimed to have told the two officers that he did not want the men's wives complaining to him of mixed partnerships.

Mr Pannick told the tribunal that the decision effectively made it impossible for Miss de Launway to go on regular police car patrol, thus affecting her future prospects.

He said that although Mr Wallace had described her as one of the best workers at the Hampton police garage, she was later returned to foot patrol. Recently, he said, Miss de Launay, who has been in the police force for five years, gained the highest marks, 99.5 per cent, on a driving school course.

The case, the first sexual discrimination action against the Metropolitan Police to reach a tribunal hearing, has been taken up by the Police Federation and the Equal Opportunities Commission.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

Universities plan to fight back in political arena

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The committee representing Britain's university vice-chancellors is restructuring itself under the chairmanship of Lord Flowers, rector of Imperial College, London, so that it can better defend and rebuild the university system.

It has decided to stop being purely reactive, and to take the initiative. "We want to be more effective and hope thereby that we will have part of the instrument we need for rebuilding the universities", Lord Flowers said.

The university system has lacked an effective voice in the past and that lack has been felt keenly in the past three years when the sector has come under political pressure. The cash cuts were absorbed rather than fought.

More cuts are now being talked about and the University Grants Committee has launched a Great Debate at the prompting of Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, raising 28 questions, including academic standards. The universities are being forced to examine themselves and the committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals wants to be in the vanguard of this examination.

Lord Flowers said that the committee hoped eventually to have permanent specialist groups looking at its relationship with schools, with the polytechnics and with the health service.

It has set up a group among the universities and industry and, as part of its decision to take the initiative, has established working parties on the alternative funding of universities and on the maintenance of academic standards, two subjects close to Sir Keith's heart. Those two groups will produce reports quickly.

The academic standards committee, chaired by Professor Philip Reynolds, Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, is beginning with an inquiry into the system of external examiners and whether it is adequate for guaranteeing the standards of examinations. It will also look at the supervision of PhD theses.

Lord Flowers hopes that out of this will come guidelines or a code of practice on external examining. The present system varies tremendously between subjects and between institutions.

The working party on alternative funding will look at the way in which universities are funded in other countries, particularly the United States, where companies get generous tax relief for donations to universities.

Colleges shake-up

Sir Keith gave his seal of approval yesterday to next year's plan for local authority higher education, which will almost certainly mean the closure of at least one college. In a written House of Commons reply, he said letters were being sent yesterday to local education authorities and institutions.

This is the first time this sector of education has been subjected to central planning. One key priority has been a shift from arts and social science towards the scientific, technological and business-related disciplines.

Pension warning

The National Union of Teachers, said yesterday that teachers would be very angry if they had to bear the brunt of a proposed increase in pension contributions.

Travel agent staff 'must be qualified'

Package tour buyers must continue to be protected from untrained inexperienced and incompetent staff, the Restrictive Practices Court held yesterday.

The quality of travel agency staff should be subject to compulsory minimum standards to be imposed and policed by the Association of British Travel Agents.

Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln, the court chairman, said a purchaser of a foreign package tour was entering into one of the most substantial transactions in his family budget. He could not readily, if at all, find out whether the travel agency staff were offering him the most suitable service, knew what they were talking about or were really able to get the services expected.

The court was giving a reserved judgment on minimum professional standards needed for travel agency staff.

The ruling was a sequel to the main judgment last December when legal approval was given for the "closed shop" system among ABTA members.

Abta's "closed shop" among its 2,400 members had been challenged by the Office of Fair Trading, which maintained that it was anti-competition and against the public interest, but the court ruled that it was an extra safeguard for package tour buyers.

Under the system an Abta tour operator may sell his holidays only directly to the public or through an Abta agent, and an agent may sell only package holidays supplied by an Abta operator.

The court then ruled that maintaining protection for the travelling public was more important than objections to the exclusive trading system.

Dealing with the quality of travel agency staff yesterday, Mr Justice Lincoln said that all Abta retail agencies should have available the advice or supervision of a qualified person.

Abto had proposed that the person should be qualified if he had had two years' practical experience; or 18 months' experience and completed tests for the Certificate of Travel Agency competence.

The office of Fair Trading claimed there was no need for more than a minimum of one year's practical experience in the industry.

Editor should go, MP says

Mr Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, was censured yesterday in a Commons motion which questioned his decision to surrender a leaked document to the Ministry of Defence.

The motion, tabled by Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney, South and Shoreditch, said that the editor's act should serve as a public warning that the paper could not be trusted to protect its sources and called on Mr Preston and his colleagues "to consider his fitness to continue as editor of a radical national newspaper".

Hearing dogs anniversary

The Hearing Dogs for the Deaf scheme, launched at Crufts Dog Show last year, has completed its first full working year with five dogs trained and placed in their new households, three in training and a target of 20 for 1984.

It takes about four months at a centre in Chinnor, Oxfordshire, and £2,500 to train each dog to alert its deaf master to aura signals such as whistling kettles, ringing doorbells or babies crying.

Computer helps handicapped boy

Lawrence Nicklin, aged 13, who is physically handicapped and who has speech difficulties, is now able to write and do arithmetic after being provided with his own computer.

He is a pupil at Blackfriars special school, Newcastel-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, whose headmaster, Mr Bill Hollinghurst, said yesterday: "This is his first real communication with the outside world."

Poison alert

More than 40 turkeys were taken from the shelves at a Tesco's supermarket in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, after a local newspaper was warned by the Animal Liberation Front that 12 birds had been injected with the poisonous paraquat. Tests revealed they had not been tampered with.

Murder remand

Ian Howell, aged 28, a kitchen porter, was remanded in custody until Friday by Oxford magistrates yesterday, charged with murdering Miss Jennifer Wright, aged 18, at an Oxford hostel where they were both staying.

Life for killer who tried to fake own death

From Our Correspondent, Manchester

A father of two who battered an insurance salesman to death in an attempt to fake his own killing was given a life sentence by a judge at Manchester Crown Court yesterday, with the recommendation that he served not less than 20 years.

James Mason, aged 31, bludgeoned his victim with a 7lb weight, disguised the body in his own clothing and dumped it in a country village. His plan was for the body to be identified as his and for £70,000 insurance money to be claimed.

But four days after the "dreadful and horrific murder" Mason gave himself up and confessed, the court was told.

Mason, a bakery worker, of Bolton Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Greater Manchester, was told by Mr Justice Beldam: "For greed and in a way which would cause the blood to run cold, you selected your victim, a husband and father, and bludgeoned him to death unsuspecting as he was.

"You then pursued your objective by dressing him in your clothes, believing that you would be able to persuade those who had undertaken the contract of insurance to pay out a substantial sum of money.

"It is a most dreadful crime and one for which the law now has one penalty. I sentence you to life and it is my recommendation that you serve at least 20 years."

Mason had admitted the murder of Mr David Moore, aged 29, whose body was found at Holme, Cumbria, last August.

£400m cash aid closer for Airbus

By Michael Baily Transport Editor

The Government appears to be moving close to providing launch aid for the 150-seat Airbus A320, which seeks to give Britain and Europe a big share of the short-to-medium distance airliners market well into the next century.

British Aerospace, a 20 per cent partner in the Airbus consortium, is seeking £400m to get the new-technology aircaft off the gound, and a government announcement is expected when Parliament reassembles in mid-January.

The Department of Industry agreed yesterday that there was "much common ground" between the Government and the TUC after a meeting between Mr Norman Lamont, the aerospace minister, and a delegation from the TUC nationalized industries committee.

Airbus predicts that the A320 could win about a thousand orders by the end of the century at a current price of between £16m and £17m each,

With orders already received from France, Britain (British Caledonian) and Yugoslavia, the A320 programme would go ahead with or without British participation, the TUC delegation argued.

Mr Lamont apparently agreed but a department spokesman emphasized later that the Government had to be sure that the project was viable.

'Trade drain' caused by town parking shortage

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Local authorities are coming under increasing pressure from town centre businesses to provide more parking space to stop the "trade drain" to suburban shopping centres.

The RAC has just completed a survey of parking meters which shows that despite an increase in revenue from metres from £55.8m to £133.47m over the past five years parking problems in the main towns have worsened considerably.

Mr Tony Lee, the RAC's director of public affairs, said: "While authorities have introduced new measures to enforce on-street parking laws at meters and elsewhere, nothing has been done to increase off-street parking space to meet the ever-growing demands of motorists who now depend on cars more than in earlier years for personal mobility."

Dissident wins damages for libel

Mr Vladimir Bukovsky, the Russian dissident living in the West, yesterday accepted undisclosed damages and his legal costs in settlement of a High Court libel action against Guardian Newspapers.

He complained of an article by Dr Nicholas Humphrey, a psychologist and writer, published by *The Guardian* in March 1982, which could be read as suggesting that Mr Bukovsky resorted to false "pseudo-revelations" to distort information concerning life in the Soviet Union and Soviet foreign policy.

Guardian Newspapers, Mr Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, and Dr Humphrey, apologizing through their counsel, Mr Desmond Browne, said they did not intend to suggest that Mr Bukovsky's writings were knowingly false or distorted.

Video maps planned for hikers

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Maps for hikers and walkers may be made available on video and cassettes for home computers if a survey being conducted on their commmercial potential by the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain proves positive.

The government body, which is charged with the duty of mapping Britain, is converting its 250,000 large scale maps into digital form to be used by a computer. Based on that experience the small scale maps, used by motorists and other road users are expected to be given the same treatment for home computers.

More than 2,000 map users, local government, national government, companies and private individuals, will take part in the survey.

The small scale maps come in three categories. They are the route planner, used by transport companies and taxis; the landranger, used principally by cyclists, walkers and hikers; and the routemaster, used by motorists.

The advantages of the computerization is that the user can select the type of map he wishes to have displayed.

Radioactive fallout level drops

By Clive Cookson

The amount of radioactive fallout over Britain declined last year, according to the National Radiological Protection Board. Levels today are probably lower than at any time since the 1950s, when many nuclear weapons were tested in the atmosphere.

The board's annual report on fallout, published today, shows that concentrations of the most important isotopes (strontium-90 and caesium-137) in air, rain and milk fell in 1982 to about the same level as 1980. There had been a slight increase in 1981 after a Chinese nuclear explosion in October, 1980.

The 1983 figures are not available yet, but the board expects the decline to continue

Fallout today is due mainly to the deposition of long-lived isotopes from the group of nuclear explosions which preceded the 1963 atmospheric test ban treaty.

The radioactive dose which the British population receives from weapons fallout is now less than one per cent of the total exposure from all sources.

Environmental Radioactivity Surveillance Programme: Results for the UK for 1982, HMSO, £4.

Stars' plan for TV and films

United British Artists, the production company headed by top stars, is to make three films next year and record three theatre productions for independent television.

The company, which has Richard Johnson, Albert Finney, John Hurt, Glenda Jackson, Diana Rigg and Maggie Smith on the board of directors, yesterday unveiled its plans for the coming year.

It also announced that, Harold Pinter, the playwright, was joining the compnay as a director and had accepted a commission to write the screenplay for one of the films, *Turtle Diary*, which is about Londoners obsessed with sea turtles in the zoo.

The three theatre plays will be shown on Channel 4. They are *The Biko Inquest*, based on the inquest into the death of the South African black political leader Steve Biko; *Sergeant Musgrave's Dance* by John Arden, and the comedy *Everything in the Garden*.

The other two films will be *The Rector's Daughter*, and *One ...mose*.

Jailed bank manager in £2m frauds

A former bank manager was jailed yesterday for frauds amounting to almost £2m, most of which he gave a woman trickster.

A judge at the Central Criminal Court was told that Guy Fisher, aged 59, became trapped in a web of deceit spun by a twice-divorced mother of seven children named as Mrs Pamela Shaw, aged 55.

Fisher, of Christopher Close, Sidcup, Kent, gave her £1.5m in "loans" for a fictitious business deal involving diamonds belonging to the late Shah of Iran.

Fisher, a wartime major in the Gurkhas, pleaded guilty to false accounting while manager of the overseas department of the Midland Bank Poultry and Princes Street branch in the City of London, between 1978 and 1981. He admitted making unauthorized loans to five customers, transferring money to them from other people's accounts.

Judge Lewisohn gave Fisher a 12 month jail sentence, suspending all but three months of it for two years. He accepted that Fisher had not make a penny from his frauds and had lost his job, pension and home.

Wigan forgives Orwell's gibes

From Ronald Faux Wigan

With a blind eye to insult, Wigan plans to honour George Orwell in 1984. The Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council has agreed to contribute towards a sculpture for the town where Orwell stayed briefly in 1936 gathering material for *The Road to Wigan Pier*.

What Orwell saw in those days clearly appalled him. The lodging house where he stayed was "utterly depressing" with its grimy blankets, damp washing hanging in front of the fire and dirty food served on sticky oil cloth.

"It was not only the dirt, the smells and the vile food but the feeling of stagnation, meaningless decay, of having got down to some subteranean place where people go creeping round and round, just-like black beetles, in an endless muddle of slovened jobs and mean grievances," Orwell wrote.

So much for Wigan then. "Wigan now is unrecognizable from those days and a place to be proud of, "a council official said Slum clearance and land reclamation schemes had wrought a dramatic difference. The "Wigan Alps", slag heaps that cast a dark shadow over Orwell, have been erased. In their place a country park has opened, which was among the best attended in Britain.

Wigan Pier, which started as a music hall joke told by George Formby Senior, was also a swipe at the town's image, comparing a coal shute jutting into the Leeds-Liverpool Canal at Wigan with the opulent piers that were centres of grand entertainment at northern coastal resorts.

The council, helped by the Government, is spending £2m on renovating the Wigan Pier area to attract business and tourism, using the famous name as an aid. A little prematurely, according to the council, the regional tourist board has begun advertising holidays in Wigan, which Orwell might have construed as doublethink taken to extremes.

No one I met in Wigan bears the author a grudge. The council, working on a belief that any publicity is good, is busily turning affliction to profit.

The sculptor who has been invited by North West Arts to submit designs for an Orwell memorial is Mr Michael Sandle. He has read most of Orwell's work and will present his ideas in the new year. The sculpture will stand near the spot where that "utterly depressing" lodging house stood.

PARLIAMENT December 19 1983

Home Secretary hesitant over banning Provisional Sinn Fein

TERRORISM

The Government has not ruled out the possibility of proscribing Sinn Fein, but there were powerful arguments in both directions, Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, said in the Commons when questioned about his statement on the bomb incident outside Harrods store on Saturday.

He also said that preventive detention had been tried before and has been found to be unhelpful. However, the Government was keeping all measures under review.

Mr Brittain, in his statement, detailed events at Harrods on Saturday. *He said the police had* already received 22 other similar messages earlier *in the day about* suspicious devices, all of this turned out to be false alarms.

The bomb was detonated by a timing device similar to that used in other IRA attacks. Everything possible was being done to bring those responsible for this outrage to justice.

He went on: The IRA made a statement *last night in 'Dublin in* which they admitted responsibility for the attack, as well as for the bomb outside Woolwich barracks ten days ago. They also claimed that *the attack* was *unauthorised* and would not be repeated, and they regretted the civilian casualties.

As I have said elsewhere, I find the disclaimer of responsibility utterly *contemptible* (Cheers): Those who place a bomb of this size in a street crowded with Christmas shoppers cannot evade responsibility in that way. Moreover, the *bomb was timed to go off just at the* moment when those investigating the situation were likely to be approaching it.

I totally reject the implied *distinction between civilian* and police casualties.

What has happened is that the IRA has found that the action taken by its members has caused universal revulsion and condemnation. It is a price of nauseating hypocrisy for them now to try and *disown it* and to claim that some kinds of brutal murder are legitimate and some are *illegitimate*.

The whole House will, I am sure, *wish to join me in expressing a sense* of outrage at what has occurred, sympathy with the victims and their families, and admiration for all those, including the police, emergency services and staff at the hospitals, who have worked tirelessly and with devotion to deal with the aftermath of this monstrous crime.

Before this incident the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police *had already taken special* action in Central London to counter recent terrorist threats. He had increased the number of police officers on traffic, crime and public order duties and had deployed *additional* officers from special units, including dog handlers, to inner London districts.

He had also, following the Woolwich bomb incident on December 10, issued an appeal for stores and the public to exercise greater vigilance.

I received, yesterday (Sunday with the Commissioner progress *on* his investigations into the incident and on further measures which he has now put in hand for the public's greater protection in the weeks ahead.

The Commissioner has introduced an additional *measure* whereby a number of vehicles are



Rees: There is no point in detention

charged specifically with the task of responding to bomb threats any*where in* the Metropolitan area. These crews are patrolling 24 hours a day; they are able to respond swiftly to any threat received and to summon specialist help where necessary.

The Commissioner has further increased by 64 officers the number of *dog handlers* deployed, deployed 30 additional Traffic Branch *officers*, and *increased uniform foot* duty officers by 320 in the inner district.

He has also increased the number of CID and Special Branch officers by *300 in* central London and deployed a further four Special Patrol Group units totalling 120 officers in the inner Districts. But particular care has also been taken to ensure that policing against terrorist threats is fully maintained *elsewhere in the London area during* this period.

Public vigilance is now essential in order to give full effect to the extra measures I have outlined to *increase security*. Those who perpetrated this crime will already have learned that their action has in no way weakened the unshakable resolve of Government and public *alike that violence will not secure its* objective.

Indeed, if anything, an outrage of this kind makes our resolution and determination stronger than ever.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Manchester, Gorton, Lab), after *expressing sympathy to the* bereaved and injured and praising the courage of the police, said: MPs and the people we represent are united in our utter and implacable determination to stand firm against the evil men who perpetrated this deed and who now, characteristically and contemptibly, seek to creep away from the consequences of their inhumanity.

Parliament will make no concession to the bullet and the bomb. We welcome the additional security measures he has announced and earnestly hope they will grant a greater measure of safety to our people as they go about their lawful and peaceful occasions.

Every effort must and will be made to trace and capture those responsible for Saturday's outrage together with their fellow gangsters. All our people are aware of the risks we face. They are risks that must be accepted if the methods and processes of democracy are to be upheld.

Mr Brittan: On occasions like this the unity of this House is a bastion of protection for us all.

Mr James Molyneaux (Lagan Valley, OUP): On behalf of the people we represent may we offer our deepest sympathy to the bereaved and unjured? Will the Government remember that political parties in the Irish Republic and elsewhere share the objectives of the IRA and hope for the attainment of those objectives provides the incentive for continuing terrorism?

Mr Brittan: I note his observations about the political background.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, *Pavilion, C): While acknowledging* that the aftermath of the incident is not the best time to reach a cool appreciation of the situation, would he consider carefully with the *Secretary of State for Northern* Ireland whether there is now a much stronger case for the preventive detention of potential terrorists than has hitherto been thought to be the case?

Mr Brittan: That course has been followed in the past. Those who have been responsible for these matters concluded that its termination was desirable and its continuation unhelpful, but we will *continue to keep all measures under* review.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, DUP): The people of Northern Ireland can enter into real sympathy *with those who have suffered* through this terrible and diabolical atrocity. For the past 15 years they have passed through this long, dark nightmare.

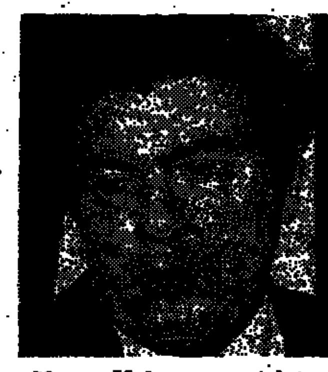
The resolve of the Government today will be welcomed by the *people of Northern Ireland*. We trust that the same spirit that was exercised by the Government in the Falklands crisis will be execised by them today with the same determination.

Will he appreciate how the people of Northern feel at this time when one such terrible incident can cause such an ourburst of condemnation, and rightly so, and when the people of Northern Ireland are frequently passing this way of sacrifice and death?

Mr Brittan: I appreciate that what London saw on Saturday is something which Northern Ireland has had to live with daily.

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab): Most people in this country believe that what happened on Saturday was an atrocity and *when some of the Provisional IRA* in Northern Ireland say they have espoused the cause of socialism, what they have espoused is the cause of national socialism, akin to Hitler.

Nobody who wants a political solution in Northern Ireland agrees with the murders of the Provisional IRA, the NILA, the Red Hand *Commandos or paramilitary groups* on both sides of the divide. What we object to is murder wherever from or whatever the cause.



Hume: If they are patriots, God save Ireland

We should not act with panic. The dignity of the House today is something we ought to put over. There is no point in detention, in the days of detention there were more murders.

As Secretary of State for Northern Ireland I legalized Sinn Fein because we must leave a chink for political action as much as we disagree with murder. *If we have* pleas for introducing identity cards I hope it would be looked at carefully because all the information given to me was that it would be counterproduc've.

Mr Brittan: He is absolutely right to condemn murder from whatever direction it comes and it should not be our task to *dignify* in any way these acts commited for whatever reasons as anything other than the foulest crimes and the most barbaric action. He has given views from his long experience and the House will want to consider what he has said.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St *Edmunds, C), parliamentary adviser* to the Police Federation, said: I thank the House for the tributes which have been paid to the men and women of the Metropolitan Police and welcome the measures that the Commissioner has taken to *strengthen the* anti-terrorist force in central London.

Would he *review* the resources available to the Special Branch and reject those who are seeking at this moment to dismantle the one arm of the police service that has a real *possiblity of protecting our citizens* against this terrible plague?

Mr Brittan: There is no *question of* the Special Branch being dismantled.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, L): In tracking *down the Baader Meinhoff gang in* the Federal Republic of Germany the use of *identity* cards was indispensable in their capture

Although we hate the idea we *would put up with it if as* a consequence it was more likely these evil men would be tracked down and brought to justice.

Mr Brittan: I would have no hesitation in supporting such a measure if I thought it would make a significant contribution to tracking down terrorists, but I am not yet persuaded that that would be the result.

Sir Hugh Fraser (Stafford, C): Could we be assured that any *talks* with either the military or political wing of the Provisional IRA in Northern Ireland or elsewhere, will be blocked?

Mr Brittan: No such talks are taking place and no such talks will take place.

Mr John Hume (Foyle, SDLP): Not *for the first time* in 14 years I have to search for new words to describe an atrocity and there are not any more, they have all been used. As an Irishman I am ashamed, and I believe my shame is shared by Irish people everywhere, that anyone could commit such an atrocity in *the name of Ireland*.

It those who planted that bomb are Irish patriots, if those who provided them with the equipment and the plan are Irish patriots, if those who are members of the same movement are Irish patriots, then God save Ireland.

While the atrocity at Harrods was being committed, a young soldier and a young policemen were murdered in the Irish Republic while doing their duty, a member of the UDR was murdered in Northern Ireland and a young Catholic innocently going home was murdered. The incident at Harrods received international publicity, the murders in Northern Ireland did *not. Murder there has become* commonplace.

It is from Northern Ireland that the political cancer is spreading its tentacles and that represents that *failure of Britain and Ireland to sort* out their relationship. That failure has been pushed into a corner called Northern Ireland.

Mr Brittan: He is right in drawing attention to the wider dimensions of terrorism affecting Ireland, on both sides of the Irish Sea and on both sides of the border. The right course is to make it clear that what happened on Saturday will do nothing towards a solution.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): I would join Mr Hume in his sentiments. *All Labour* MPs share the horror at this barbaric act which slaughtered people who had nothing to do with the struggle. It just gives a malevolent and viscious twist to an intractable problem.

May I appeal that nothing be said which will give an incentive to any unofficial grouping which would try to engage in *similar* retaliation across the sectarian divide.

Mr Brittan: Any attempt at retaliation would offensive, horrific and as much to be condemned as *what happened on Saturday*.

Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (Kensington, C): My daughter was working at Harrods and from what she was saying about the incident I understand that the security practice in the store was exemplary and might have contributed considerably to the saving of life.

Mr Brittan: The decision of Harrods to search the store and not to pour many people out on the streets saved a great many lives.

Mr John Wheeler (Westminster, North, C): The statement will be welcomed by the residential and business community of central



Dickens: People want capital punishment

London because of their determination not to be bombed out of their homes or businesses and because of increased police support.

Mr Brittan: For us to be bombed out of our *homes* and *businesses* would be the greatest victory the IRA could secure. We shall not allow it to happen.

Mr Clare Short (Birmingham, Ladywood, Lab): While we all join in comdemning this vile and nasty act, *will he not take action which* could lead to escalating violence in Northern Ireland and Britain over the coming months.

In particular, I refer *to the demand* for procription of Sinn Fein which has the *support* in votes of 42 per cent of the nationalist electorate. *This* would be likely to criminalize and point towards violence *large* numbers of young men in that community, as we experienced with internment.

Mr Brittan: I have no wish to do anything which would lead to escalation. Whether that would do so or not is open to two views, but *her observations* are noted.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C): Did he hear the broadcast by one of the bravest men who ever sat in this House, Lord Fitt, who said that Provisional Sinn Fein were daytime politicians who served the cause of violence and we should seriously consider their proscription.

Mr Brittan: I heard it. There is room for two legitimate views as to the wisdom or *otherwise* of proscribing Sinn Fein.

This is a matter we are urgently considering but there are powerful arguments in both directions.

Mr Geoffrey Dickens (Littleborough and Saddleworth, C): This House has been *full of words*, words, words and sympathy, sympathy, sympathy. What the country wants is action. Politicians seldom reflect the views of the country. *We should be holding* a referendum on capital punishment for terrorists. That is what people want.

Mr Brittan: I do not think the arguments are affected by what has happened.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Health and Social Security Bill, second reading. **Lords** (2.30): Roads (Scotland) Bill, committee. Amusement Machines *Bill, committee*.

Fitt: IRA are enemies of Ireland and Britain

After the statement had been repeated in the House of Lords by **Lord Elton**, Under Secretary of *State, Home Office*, **Lord Mishcon**, for the Opposition, said there was unity in expressing their abhorrence at an act which would take its sordid place in the annals of evil men.

Our united determination (he said) is that the perpetrators of this vile crime should be brought to justice. Equally are we determined that not one drop of political advantage should be gained by the shedding of this innocent blood.

Lord Harris of Greenwich (SDP) said he also wished to be associated with the expressions of horror at the scale of this atrocity. There was no certain way of pretecting Christmas shoppers, but they should *take* into account the ease with which car *bombs could be left outside London* department stores which were known to be potential targets.

He added: Could we express the hope that those US citizens who have given money to Noraid and other front organizations of the *provisional IRA do take account of* what their money has in fact achieved?

Lord Elton said the Metropolitan Police Commissioner was concerned that the need for increased commitment to policing central London should not diminish the policing for Greater London as a whole. Proper cover would be *maintained at all times in all places*.

He hoped those supporting such *organizations* as Lord Harris mentioned would indeed know what their money had bought. An American citizen was one of the victims of the outrage.

Regarding the possibility of banning parking outside major stores during the Christmas period, the Commissioner did not believe this would assist in reducing the risk od terrorist bombs *in London*.

Lord Fitt (Ind): The IRA are the enemies of us all in these islands, both in Ireland and in Britain. Perhaps now would be the time for the Government to *take* into account the legitimacy or otherwise of *the* so-called provisional Sinn Fein as a *political organization*.

Would the minister accept from me that the provisional Sinn Fein and the IRA are one and the same thing.

The so-called member *for West* Belfast (Mr Gerry Adams) had refused to condemn those responsible for the London bombing. If the Government decided to treat provisional Sinn Fein as they should be treated as the IRA it would have *the overwhelming support* of the people of Ireland and Britain.

Lord Elton said the possibility of banning Sinn Fein was being considered byv ministers and Dr Fitzgerald was giving thought to the same thing at the same time.

Government want 2% price rise

ELECTRICITY

The Government does not have it in mind to introduce emergency legislation to compel the nationalized power industries to increase gas and electricity prices, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said *in the Commons*.

He revealed that at a meeting in the morning with Mr Philip Jones, chairman of the Electricity Council, he had put to him the Cabinet suggestion of a 2 per cent increase in electricity prices in 1984, representing a 2 per cent increase over 2 years. That compared with a 2 per cent increase in electricity prices every six weeks under the Labour Government.

There was no possibility of electricity prices going up before the end of the winter, he added, and any increase would be well below half the low current rate of inflation. The gas industry would be announcing their price increases very shortly.

In a clash over electricity and gas prices, **Mr Stanely Orme**, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said that Mr Walker, should resign after losing the battle in Cabinet *over an electricity price increase*.

Mr Orme said: The Electricity Council does not want any increase. Industry itself needs this proposal like a hole in the head. Certainly the consumer does not want any increase. Above all, Mr Walker is *opposed to any such increase*.

There is therefore a major division in the Cabinet. The Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer have carried the day. *Their reason for wanting the* increase is to make the cuts in taxation at the expense of the least well off in our society. Mr Walker should resign.

Mr Walker: I am grateful for that inviiaon. Gas and electricity price increases will be decided and announced at the *appropriate* time by the industries concerned. The Government has no powers over increases. The gas industry will announce their price increase shortly. It will be the industry's decision without any Government pressure.

On industrial electricity it is probably unlikely for a long time that there will be increases apart from normal adjustment clauses.

On domestic electricity, the Cabinet has asked the Electricity *Council to look again at their* proposals over the next two years.

I am talking about the possibility of a 2 per cent increase next year. This would mean there will have been a 2 per cent increase over two years whereas under the Labour Government there was a 2 per cent increase every six weeks. Mr Orme, who was responsible for those on lower incomes, should resign every six weeks (laughter).

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): All Mr Walker's *rhetoric does not disguise that he* was beaten ad humiliated in Cabinet by the Prime Minister and the Chancellor on electricity price increases.

If the Electricity Council refuses to increase prices, and it has made clear that it considers there is no justification for this, what power or persuasion will he use to force it to do so?

Mr Walker. There is no question of powers. We are having a perfectly reasonable dialogue with the Electricity Council and asking them to consider its price increases over the last two years and making a suggestion to them. This morning I met the council's chairmen who told *me he* would carefully consider the views expressed by the Cabinet. That is a perfectly good relationship.

If Mr Orme condemns the possibility of domestic electricity *prices rising* 2 per cent over two yars when his Government increased it by 170 oper cent, it is extraordinary.

Mr Peter Hordern (Horsham), C) said the advisors, Coopers and Lybrand, appointed by the Chancellor had reported that, if anything, electricity prices should be reduced by 7 *per cent*. The Electricity Council apparently sees no need for any further price increase.

So it would be better if the Electricity Council was able to set the price they think appropriate.

Mr Walker: The electicity *Council will set prices. It is* reasonable for governments to have a dialogue with the major nationalised industries and make suggestions about the manner in which future price rises are managed.

On the Coopers and Lybrand report, *the quotation that* Mr Hordern read in the papers was one part of the report dealing with the write off of capital assets, they did not give an overall view that



Howell: Treasury's poor grasp of energy issues

electricity *prices* shuld be cut by 7 per cent. this is ultimately a matter for the council itself.

Mr James Wallace (Orkney and Shetland, L): If, at the end of discussions, the Electricity Council is directed in increase fuel prices *against its better judgement how* would that square with the Government's policy of non-intervention in industry?

Mr Walker: The statutory power on prices is with the council. It has always been customery under all governments for the council concerned *to have discussions* and take into account views of the Government on the economic position, because if you take the electricity industry, a great deal of the calculation is based on the forecasts made by the Treasury on trends *in the ecomomy. It is right* that a dialogue should take place.

***Mr David Howell** former Secretary* of State for Energey, (Guildford, C): On this matter of electricity prices, he has may sympathy. In my experience, the Treasury has always had a rather poor grasp of matters to do with the energy industry and energy pricing.

If he is going to approve a price increase, it should be on the basis of energy markets and proper energy policy and energy balance rather than on short-sighted views pressed on him by the Treasury. (Labour cheers).

Mr Walker: The important thing is that financial targets set by the Government should be complied with and should be met. The nationalized industries should also take into consideration the general *economic* scene. I am sure that is what they will do.

If we are going to have good management in this industry we have to set financial target which is *sensible*, just as we have set the gas industry.

Mr Dale Campbell Savours (Workington, Lab): In the period since 1979, with the RPI rising 57.2 per cent, why is it the Government has sanctioned increases in gas prices of 112 per cent; electricity, 82.5 *per* cent; and coal, 82.2 per cent? is it not for the Government to take a lead by using public utilities as a vanguard?

Mr Walker: Over the last two years in real terms gas and electricity prices have *gone down*.

Sir Kenneth Lewis (Stamford and Spalding, C): At this particular time of the year, he has the total good will of every member of the Cabinet. If it should happen that the electricity industry puts its prices up and makes a very *large* profit, *will* he try to persuade the Cabinet we should all have a rebate since we all own *the electricity industry?*

Mr Walker: To assist Christmas good cheer, there is no possibility of electricity increases until the end of the winter. If there are increases, they will be below half of the very low current rate of inflation. On rebates, the correct thing to do is to get sensible financial targets and not get involved in the complexity of rebates.

***Mr Orme:** What were the arguments* he used against the increases? These increases were arrived at when he was away in China. We were told he came back very angry.

Mr Walker: What happened in Cabinet when I was in China was what had been agreed with myself the week before as to the way in which we should approach the Electricity Council. As a person I am never angry. Whatever the result, and any views I have expressed, if there are any increases they will be way below the rate of inflation.

Gas corporation target agreed

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said he had agreed with the British Gas Corporation a financial target and a performance objective for 1983-84 to 1986-87.

The financial target (he said) will *require the corporation to earn an* average current cost operating profit, before taxation and interest, of 4 per cent on average net assets at current cost.

The performance objective is a 12 per cent real reduction, by 1986-87 against 1982-83, in unit net trading costs per therm of gas sold and used at seasonal normal temperatures.

Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse (Pontefract and Castleford, Lab): Does Mr *Walker* expect a ceasefire *in the war* between himself and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and who does he expect to be the victor? Mr Walker: I do not expect ceasefires. I expect happy, cheerful, contented dialogues. (Laughter).

Protests at cancelled contract

SCOTLAND

The cancellation by Britoil of its contract with Scot Lithgow for a semi-submersible drilling rig was the subject of exchanges in the Commons as *MPs* sought *either* an emergency debate or a statement by a Government minister.

Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal *and Leader of the House*, said the matter would be pursued through the usual channels, the procedure for arranging the business of the House.

Mr Norman Godman (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab) was first to raise the issue when he unsuccessfully sought an emergency debate on the cancellation of the contract which, he said, had been announced just an hour and a half ago.

It will (he said) lead inevitable to the loss of some 4,000 jobs at Lithgow in constituency.

This contract must be renogiated *within* the next *two or three* weeks or it will be lost for ever.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, rising on a *point of order, called for a statement* from a responsible minister, either from the Scottish Office or the Department of Trade and Industry, before the Christmas recess.

He said the whole future of Britain in a key area of high technology in the North Sea was at risk.

***Mr Bruce Millan** (Glasgow, Govan*, Lab) appealed to Mr Biffen to make some response to Mr Dewar's point of order.

He said it was a matter of extreme urgency. *If nothing was done this* week the contract would be lost.

Enormous potential of cable television

HOUSE OF LORDS

The development of new cable systems could pave the way for the *growth of a range of new services* of enormous potential for economic, industrial and social life, **Lady Trumpington**, a Government spokesman, said when she moved the second reading of the Cable and Broadcasting Bill in the House of Lords.

The Bill establishes a cable authority to license and regulate the provision of cable programme services and enables the IBA to provide *direct broadcasting services* by satellite.

Lady Trumpington said cable and satellite both offered new opportunities to industry in developing the technology and exploiting it not only in this country but overseas.

It is up to us (she went on) to provide the framework which offers the widest opportunities and greatest benefits to those prepared to apply them.

The cable systems *needed* both encouragement and regulation but this was the subject of another piece of legislation – the Telecommunications Bill which would also shortly be before the Lords. The Government's objective was to *develop*, as *quickly* as possible audiences big enough to make it worth while for companies to provide programme services – services that would have to be attractive if *cable* was to *succeed*.

The authority would consist of chairman and six members. The Government wanted them to start work as soon as the Bill was enacted and hoped to announce who *they* would be while the Bill was still going through Parliament. They would appointed by the Home Secretary (Mr Leon Brittan) and obliged to report to him annual*ly*.

The authority would be a totally independent body and have to support itself financially from the fees it charged to its licensees.

The Government (she said) is determined there should be no undermining of the kind of *programme* standards that we insist on for the existing broadcasting authorities. There is to be no scope for undesirable material of a violent or sexually explicit nature.

On the services for direct broadcasting by satellite, she said the Government intended to create opportunities within which private investment could seek to satisfy the demands of the market. Their success would depend on their *offering to the public services which* they wished to buy at a price they were prepared to pay.

The Bill would allow them to move forward in advancing the frontier of telecommunications technology and to do so without the *dead hand of bureaucracy*.

Lord Mishcon (Lab), for the Opposition, said they must ensure that they neither shut the gates in the face of technological progress not recklessly opened them too wide to admit unwelcome and possible *socially dangerous forces*.

The Government had however failed adequately to protect the existing broadcasting services and the quality of national life. The Opposition would be pressing for safeguards during the futher stages of the Bill.

There was nothing in the Bill, other than certain broad concepts, to guide the new authority. The Government should issue guidelines as to the conditions to be attached to the proposed licences instead of leaving such conditions to the unguided will of the new authority. The applicants and Parliament were entitled to such guidelines.

They should also lay down a maximum quota for imported items of entertainment from countries outside the EEC.

Whitehall brief

Nothing new for 'Yes, Minister'

By Peter Hennessy

The big disappointment of the 1983 Reith lectures, delivered by Sir Douglas Wass, former Permanent secretary to the Treasury, is that Mr Antony Jay, creator, with Mr Jonathan Lynn, of *Yes, Minister*, did not hear them.

"I find the public utterances of permanent secretaries so predictable and completely interchangable that I have stopped listening to them", Mr Jay explained. "It has to do with Civil Service English. You *have to squeeze all personality* out of it."

Had Sir Humphrey Appleby, of the Department of Administrative Affairs, tuned in? "Humphrey would have seen a draft in advance and, having been invited to comment, would have removed all phrases that carried any meaning", he said.

That is not how Sir Douglas's own folk in Whitehall saw it. The Treasury, for example, was miffed at his suggestion that the Cabinet remained at a disadvantage on economic affairs because the Chancellor of the Exchequer "keeps his powerful control of the sources of official information and advice".

One very senior figure wondered: "What on earth does Douglas *think he is up to?" But* another Whitehall veteran said: "*The lectures* were very Wassish – well put together, decent, clear, reasonable but sexless."

Sir Douglas was obliged by Estacode, the Civil Service Bible of 'do's and dont's', to offer his lectures to the Cabinet *Office for vetting*. But he was told they were not memoirs – it was *not necessary* for them to be approved in advance.

But in a conversation broadcast just before the lectures began Sir Douglas did reveal how the Treasury had played for time during the 1976 sterling crisis in the hope of avoiding a disaster of 1931 proportions.

Was that not an example of the Civil Service applying the brakes to Labour governments?

"I would rebut that argument because I was only doing what Denis Healey (then Chancellor of the Exchequer) wanted me to. He wanted me to get the best terms I could from the International Monetary Fund", Sir Douglas said this week.

Sir Douglas's coming out in favour of open government "definitely encouraged" Mr Des Wilson, chairman of the 1984 Committee for Freedom of Information, whose campaign begins next month. Mr Wilson, however, wondered if Sir Douglas's plan for an official information auditor was a device to "contain" the need for a freedom of information Act.

Sir John Hoskyns, former senior policy adviser to Mrs Thatcher and arch-critic of the existing Whitehall system, believes that Britain is heading for serious difficulties when North *Sea oil begins to run out*, and that reform of central government *is a necessary precondition* of national recovery.

He said of the Wass lectures: "It is very encouraging that the debate is moving on, *but I felt* they lacked a sense of urgency because *they did not set* a context of the world and the direction *in which Britain is* going."

Sir Douglas disagrees: "I do not think these are desperate times. If they are, the country has been in desperate times since 1066. We have always been faced with the breakdown of law and order, and economic collapse. But our system has given us progress without blood-letting."

THE WASS RECOMMENDATIONS

- **A new system for reviewing public spending programmes to enable Cabinet to make *efficient choices on the basis of* reason rather than "blind prejudice".**
- **New Cabinet review *committees*, say, on *economic*, social and transport policy, to *produce a strategic collective* view and prevent a strong minister "railreading" colleagues.**
- **A revived "Think Tank" concentrating on public spending to prevent the Treasury and individual departments making private deals *detrimental* to Cabinet strategy.**
- **Officials should oppose *government actions which are* unlawful or unconstitutional *and resign if necessary*.**
- **More staff and better briefing for Commons select committees.**
- **As an experiment a few civil servants should be seconded to strengthen professional support for the Opposition.**
- **A reduction of the 30-year rule secret documents to "a much shorter interval".**
- **A 200-strong standing royal commission able to pick its own subjects for "*dispassionate* and authoritative investigation free *from party and sectional* prejudice".**

Sir Douglas Wass: "Progress without blood-letting"

£500 for solicitor held in cell

From Our Correspondent
Manchester

A solicitor who was detained after he refused to hand over a document given him by a client should not have been put in a *police cell*, a *High Court* jury decided in Manchester yesterday.

Mr David Middleweek, aged 44, who practises in Manchester, was awarded £500 damages against the Chief Constable of Merseyside.

Mr Middleweek, who was detained for more than two hours in April 1980 before being told in the presence of others that he was being bailed on *suspicion of theft, had claimed* damages alleging wrongful arrest, unlawful search, false imprisonment and defamation.

Mr Justice Eastham ruled that Mr Middleweek's arrest at Liverpool Magistrates Court was lawful and that there was no malice in relation to the claim for defamation.

The jury found he should not have been kept in a cell for 20 minutes.

The Chief Constable was given a stay of execution for 28 days while an appeal is considered.

Peace lessons find a place in school

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Peace studies are taught in schools in many education areas, according to a survey carried out by Lancaster University.

The research, shows that 11.8 *per cent* of Conservative and 30.6 per cent of Labour councils have peace studies on the curriculum in their schools. In addition to that 47.1 per cent of Conservative and a third of Labour councils included peace studies under other topics.

The survey was carried out by *Dr Paul Smoker, reader in* peace and conflict research at *Lancaster* University and director of the Richardson Institute for Conflict and Peace Research, and Professor Hanns-Fred Rathenow, professor for social studies at the Berlin Technical University.

Of the 125 United Kingdom authorities, 93 replied to a questionnaire or sent a letter, *but only 62 provided sufficient* detail to answer the main questions.

The main difference between Labour and Conservative councils came in whether a woeking party had been set up to discuss a peace studies curriculum. None of the Conservative councils in the sample had done so or intended to do so, but 27.8 per cent of Labour councils had set up working parties with a *further 5.6* per cent preparing to do so.

Driving ban on baronet

Sir William Pigott-Brown, who was arrested for a drink and driving offence in his Mercedes at 4 am, was fined £150 and banned from driving for a year at Horseferry Rd court yesterday.

Sir William, aged 42, described as a director, of Eaton Mews, Belgravia, London, admitted driving with excess alcohol in his breath at Lyall Street, Westminster, on December 15.

Woman Police Constable Sheila McMiff said that Sir Wiliam failed the breath test when stopped for driving erratically, and a further test proved he had 54 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 mls of breath, 19 points over the limit.

The Tripoli evacuation

Israeli hardliners keep up pressure on Arafat's besieged PLO fighters

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli Government *appeared in no mood last night* to give the formal guarantees for the safe passage of Mr Yassir Arafat and his 4,000 Palestine *Liberation Organization* fighters, guarantees said to have been sought by Greece.

Officials also denied that any *such pledge* had been given previously by the Israelis, directly or indirectly.

Senior ministers have deliberately striven to maintain uncertainty about what Israel's final attitude would be towards the evacuation convoy. Veiled threats have been mingled with a string of studiously ambiguous statements.

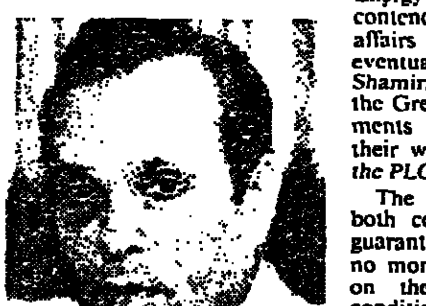
A Defence Ministry source said yesterday that Israel would continue to put pressure on the PLO – of the kind which over the past 24 hours has seen two naval bombardments of Tripoli and air strikes against what Israel described as "terrorist bases" close to the Beirut-Damascus highway in Lebanon.

One interpretation of Israel's *stand has been given by reserve* General Rafael Eitan, the hawkish former Chief of Staff. He said that Israel had an *interest in Mr* Arafat's men remaining in Tripoli because it wanted them to disappear, and they were more likely to disappear faster if they remained beleaguered in the *Lebanese port.*

The hard line being adopted by the Cabinet has the support of all coalition factions. Some individual ministers, such as Mr Ariel Sharon, the former defence chief, are still pressing for military action to kill Mr Arafat before he has the chance to escape to Tunisia.

The policy was spelt out concisely after a seven-hour cabinet session on Sunday when Mr Dan Meridor, the Cabinet Secretary, stated bluntly: "We believe that the terrorists should not receive the support and protection of the United Nations or any other civilized country. We have made this position clear and we have given no guarantees to anyone.

"The PLO is an organization whose aim is the destruction of Israel, and its methods are terror action. We have fought *them and will* go on fighting them."



Mr Modai: Accused the French and Greeks.

A claim by Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, *in a* television interview that the recent naval attacks had no connexion with the evacuation was being *discounted by diplomatic* observers.

Mr Yitzhak Moda'i, the Energy Minister, and one of the contenders for the foreign affairs portfolio when it is eventually handed on by Mr Shamir, yesterday accused both the Greek and French Governments of ulterior motives for their willingness to assist with *the PLO evacuation.*

The minister claimed that both countries had secured a guarantee that there would be no more PLO terrorist actions on their native soil as a condition for coming to the assistance of Mr Arafat.

Meanwhile, the Israeli press continued to link the Provisional IRA bomb attack on Harrods with the agreement of the West to help with Mr Arafat's departure. *Hatzofeh, the only daily which consist*ently backs the Shamir Government, complained that the free world was unwilling to learn from the London atrocity, "and draw the necessary conclusions in its war against terror".

The paper went on to charge Mrs Thatcher with "doube entry book-keeping", which it claimed consisted of a firm hand against terror in Britain but understanding for the PLO as far as Israel was concerned.

"Let *us hope*", *Hatzofeh* concluded, "that after what happened in the centre of London there will be a shift in the world's attitude towards terror wherever it may happen; and they will no longer draw *distinctions between attacks in* London and attacks in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem."

Army accused of errors over Tyre bombing

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

Military errors which may *lead to courts martial have been* revealed by the official Israeli inquiry into the November 4 bomb attack in Tyre which killed 61 people, 29 of them members of the Israeli defence forces.

Local *commanders* apparently disregarded a directive from the General Staff to place an armoured vehicle at the entrance to the Tyre security headquarters, which had been identified as a target for terrorists from the beginning of the year.

The report also alleged that the main gates had not beeen *locked, that two guards were* not at their posts when the lorry packed with explosives was driven in shortly after 6am, that earthworks had not yet been completed and that a zig-zag barrier erected shortly before *the attack was ineffective.*

Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, told his Cabinet colleagues – who had already rejected an earlier report as insufficiently detailed – that the military police were still investigating, implying possible court martial proceedings.

All decked out for Christmas Down Under



Invincibly cheerful: The aircraft carrier Invincible, undeterred by her sticky welcome in Australia, displaying a seasonal greeting en route from Auckland to Sydney. There it is hoped she will be repaired after Australia backed down from its original ban because the vessel might be carrying nuclear weapons.



Eyes front: Members of the Salvadorean Army's Morazán Battalion marching out of San Francisco Gotera, capital of Morazán department, to search for guerrillas who had wiped out an army communications base on the Cacahuatique volcano, killing more than 50 soldiers.

Nicaragua mobilizes coffee-picking army

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

Nicaragua is mobilizing tens of thousands of volunteers to *bring in its all-important* coffee crop which has become the latest targets of the US-based anti-Sandinista contras.

The volunteers are being joined by hundreds of young people, mainly from the United States and Europe, who are forming international brigades to work in the plantations.

Nicaragua cannot afford to lose its coffee crop at a time when US sanctions and sabotage of its supplies by the contras have badly hurt the economy. Contra attacks on *plantations near the Honduran* border have delayed the harvest, reducing expectations that last year's $140m ($93m) of precious foreign exchange earned from coffee can be repeated this time.

***Nearly 70 per cent of the* crop is grown in the northern provinces of Jinotega and Matagalpa, where the hilly terrain lends itself to guerrilla insugency. By late January any coffee still unpicked will perish under the unrelenting sunshine of the imminent dry season.**

While the Sandinista Army and militias try to keep the controls in check, Nicaragua's 25,000 *traditional* pickers are being joined by 15,000 volunteers and 30,000 workers from the capital who are organizing themselves on a rota basis.

In addition, about 400 volunteers largely from the United States, West Germany, France, The Netherlands, and Scandinavia, will be arriving over the next few days from internationsl brigades in the plantations.

Another 140 foreign youngsters resident in Nicaragua have formed the first brigade, calling themselves the Maurice Bishop Battalion in reference to the Grenada leader whose assassination preceded the US invasion of the island. The foreign volunteers intend to spend Christmas and the first three weeks of the new year helping to salvage the coffee.

Andropov dying, says Newsweek

New York (Reuter, AFP) – Soviet doctors have given *President Andropov less than* two years to live, the American magazine *Newsweek* Reported yesterday.

Quoting a knowledgeable Soviet medical source, the magazine said the 69-year-old Soviet leader was suffering from a degenerative kidney disease that had responded to treatment, but barring a new medical *discovery his life expectancy* was now only 18 months to two years.

Mr Andropov, who was last **seen in public on August 18, was being treated in a special sanitarium for members of the Communist Party Central Committee on the outskirts of Moscow, *Newsweek* said Doctors did not want him to return to his duties but hoped he would be able to attend the scheduled December 28 meeting of the Supreme Soviet.**

He was on a programme of rest and dialysis, which artificially cleanses the blood of *impurities that diseased kidneys* cannot filter out.

Several doctors had proposed a kidney transplant, but others opposed it for fear that their patient could die

A senior Communist Party spokesman, Mr Leonid Zamyatin, said last week that Mr Andropov was recovering from an illness and already working

EEC budget will be adopted today

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The EEC's £15.5bn budget will be adopted today, despite a *letter to the Parliament* from the Council of Ministers questioning the legal basis of parts of it.

Mr Piet Dankert, the Parliament's president, has decided that there is no point in reopening the conciliation process over the budget on the grounds raised by Foreign Ministers when they met in *Brussels yesterday. In his view* Parliament voted so overwhelmingly in support of the budget last week that there is no room for any further amendment.

The Council yesterday was *unhappy about the budget but* undecided on what to do to stop its being adopted at noon today by Mr Dankert. In the end it agreed to send the letter, based on a watered-down British draft, protesting at the way in which the budget had been agreed, but stopping short of asking the Parliament directly for a conciliation meeting.

The letter specified the main areas of the budget that the Council disliked. Among them was the way it had reclassified the £457m net rebate due to Britain to make it possible for the Parliament to freeze the money.

Other points at issue included the Parliamt's claim to have the right to decide how much money the Community can spend. This was in part linked *to the MEPs' vote to increase* Community spending next year by £80m more to the amount which member states believed Parliament was authorized to do.

A cheque for a further £178m in rebates to Britain for 1982 was handed over yesterday by the Commission. This brings total Community support to Britain for the year to £809m. The *money falls £42m* short of the total Britain believes it is owed for that year, and the Government has promised to continue to work for full payment.

Letters, page 11

González flies to see Mitterrand

Madrid – Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, is flying today to see President Mitterrand of France in an attempt to gain support for Spain's application to join the EEC (Richard Wigg writes).

Since the Athens summit the Madrid Government has been anxious to discover France's intentions during its chairmanship of the Community starting *on January 1*.

Ministers dodge issue on Cyprus

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels

The EEC again backed away from positive action against the self-styled Turkish Republic of Cyprus when foreign ministers met in Brussels yesterday and succeeded in facing both ways at once.

Argument centred on the preferential customs duty which the island enjoys when sending *its goods to the Community.* Greece, as current president of the Community, has been pressing for this to be granted only to goods coming from the Greek part of the island, forcing any goods from the Turkish area to pay duty.

Yesterday's meeting agreed that a new kind of document issued by the recognized Cypriot Government would be acceptable to the customs in each member state. But nothing was agreed about cancelling the old documents. Which can still be issued in the Turkish part.

The Community has agreed to *implement a new £26m five*-year aid package, the money to be spent on "the population of Cyprus". With no distinction as to where it lives.

● NICOSIA: A Cyprus government spokesman has accused the Turkish side of murdering a Greek-Cypriot soldier on duty along the "green line" dividing the two

Four seized for planning attacks on US [redacted]

[redacted] arrested [redacted] terrorists and [redacted] with *preparing* [redacted] against American barracks and arms depots and state railway property, the public prosecutor's office announced here.

Two of the four, who were all aged between 21 and 25, were *said to belong to the Red Army* Faction and the other two to an unspecified terrorist group. When they were arrested at *Russelsheim*, near Frankfurt, police said they also seized a quantity of bomb-making material.

A 29-year-old shorthand typist employed by an insurance company was sentenced to two and a half years in prison yesterday by a Frankfurt court for helping the Red Army Faction.

Fans sentenced

Hamburg (AFP) – Two football supporters were given prison sentences, one of them suspended, and a third ordered to do community service, for *their part in the death of a* 16-year-old rival supporter struck by a stone. It happened after a cup match between SV Hamburg and Werder Bremen.

Left's victory

Paris (Reuter) – The French left warded off a strong challenge from the Opposition in a parliamentary by-election by joining forces behind the centre-left candidate, M Bernard Charles in the south-western region of Lot. He won the run-off poll with 52.44 per cent of the votes.

Thirty-year war

Jakarta (Reuter) – Two 65-year-old Indonesian soldiers, who thought *the war of* independence against the Dutch was still going on, have been found living among isolated tribes in the central Sumatran jungle. They had to be convinced that the war ended 30 *years ago.*

17 executed

Tehran (Reuter) – Seventeen people convicted by revolutionary courts of dealing in drugs and involvement in gun battles with security forces were executed in Iran, Tehran radio reported.

Gift's Water[redacted]



Brussels (AP) [redacted] of Wellington in senator yesten of his [redacted] budget [redacted] canc[redacted] ab[redacted] would [redacted] nnuity of [redacted] descendants [redacted] eat of Napo[redacted]aterloo.

TV massacre

Bangkok (Reuter) – Five men fired machine guns into a crowd of about *30 Thai villagers* watching a television show, killing 10 and wounding three others. The motive was not known.

Lucky turtle

Akron, Ohio (AP) – A rubber company researcher is hoping to get a crippled, 350lb sea turtle named Lucky on the road to recovery with rubber flippers to replace the two that were bitten off by a shark.

Turnabout on Ottawa health Bill

From John Best Ottawa

Thanks to a sudden and unexpected turnabout by the opposition Progressive Conservative Party, legislation to remove inequities from Canada's national health insurance *plan – known as Medicare* – appears certain of relatively smooth sailing through Parliament.

The legislation will abolish extra charges against patients which threaten the philosophical underpinning of the popular scheme – the principles of universality and accessibility.

The dispute over extra charges *is the most serious* to hit the $Can 18 billion (£10 billion) programme since it was launched in the 1960s, with the organized medical profession and most of Canada's 10 provinces pitted against the federal Government.

The federal Tories were expected to oppose the Government legislation, not least because *most of the provinces* which took a stand against the Bill are run by Conservative regimes. But last week the Tories surprisingmy threw their support behind the measure.

Mr Pierre Trudeau's Liberal regime, trailing far behind the Tories in public opinion polls, had been expected to use Medicare to restore its popularity with voters in the run-up to the general election, due next year.

The Tories refused to fall into the trap, preferring to face the wrath of some provincial Tories to that of the voters.

The key to the legislation is a provision giving the federal Government authority to withhold $Can 1 in Medicare payments *to the provinces for* every $Can 1 the provinces permit in extra charges to patients.

Fears of growing East-West tension

US lists Soviet arms control violations

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration is nearing completion of a review of Soviet violations of arms control agreements.

The report is to be presented to Congress early in the new year, and although its contents will be classified the Administration *is coming under increas*ing pressure from conservatives to make at least part of its contents public.

If this happens, *it will further* sour United States relations with the Soviet Union because it contains damaging evidence of what one official describes as "a deliberate Soviet policy of abusing arms control agreements".

America's Nato allies are concerned that publication of segments of the report could make it *more difficult* to achieve a resumption of the Geneva talks on medium-range missiles which were broken off by the Soviet Union last month.

According to an official involved in the preparation of the report, the document will *list a series of alleged Soviet* violations of the Salt 1 and Salt 2 agreements, the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, the Biological Weapons Convention, the Threshold Test Ban Treaty and the Limited Test Ban Treaty.

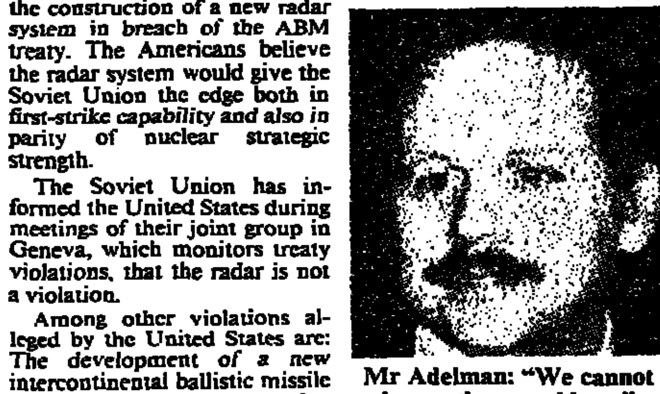
The violation which most concerns the United States is the construction of a new radar *system in breach of the ABM* treaty. The Americans believe the radar system would give the Soviet Union the edge both in *first-strike capability and also in* parity of nuclear strategic strength.

The Soviet Union has informed the United States during meetings of their joint group in Geneva, which monitors treaty violations, that the radar is not a violation.

Among other violations alleged by the United States are: The development *of a new* intercontinental ballistic missile known as the PL5; the carrying out of at least 15 known *underground nuclear tests in* excess of 150 kilotons; and the use of chemical weapons in Cambodia, Laos and Afghanistan.

The report is also expected to contain a host of lesser allegations such as concealment of weapons systems,

Successive administrations have been reluctant in the past *to make a public issue of some* of these violations because of the damage this could cause the various rounds of arms control talks.



Mr Adelman: "We cannot ignore these problems"

However, now that the three main negotiations – Start (strategic weapons), INF (medium-range weapons) and NBFR (conventional forces) – have all come to a halt; the Administration seems less concerned about the potential fallout that may be caused by openly pointing a finger at Moscow.

In a recent speech Mr Kenneth Adelman, Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said: "We cannot – and will not – ignore these *problems (Soviet violations). If* we are serious about arms control, we must be serious about compliance with arms *control commitments and* about effective verification for arms control proposals."

Air raid by S Africa 'hit school'

Lisbon (AP) – The Angolan Defence Ministry said yesterday that South African aircraft had killed "dozens of civilians" and destroyed an hospital and a school in an eight-hour bombing raid on Sunday against an Angolan town.

The Ministry, in a statement *carried by the official Angolan* news agency ANGOP and monitored here, said South African Mirage an Buccaneer aircraft began bombing the town of Caiundo in the southern province of Kuando-Kubango 90 miles north of the Namibian border about 9am local time on Sunday.

It said South African Mirage aircraft attacked Angolan military positions near the town of Mullondo in the southern province of Huila on Saturday, "*killing seveal people*" and destroying military equipent.

The statement repeated earlier claims that South African *armed forces regularly launch* attacks up to 186 miles inside Angolan territory

Peugeot plant workers vow to resist cuts

Paris (Reuter) – Workers at the French Peugeot car firm's strike-hit Talbot plant vowed yesterday to resist a compro*mise on redundancies* worked out at the weekend by the Government and the management of the loss-making company.

Trade union sources said the workers were discussing strategy to oppose a plan to cut 1,905 jobs from the staff of 17,000 at the Talbot factory at Poissy, west of Paris. This would be 1,000 fewer lay-offs than had originally planned by the management.

Mayerling prince 'murdered by French agents'

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Austria's Crown Prince Rudolf, long thought to have committed suicide with his lover, was *murdered* by French agents, according to Habsburg family papers published for the first time in Vienna yesterday.

Prince Rudolf died in mysterious circumstances with his lover, 17-year-old Maria Vetsera in a hunting lodge at Mayerling in 1889. The official announcement that it was suicide shocked the devoutly Catholic Austrian court, and the young couple's death has been a source of speculation ever since.

Earlier this year, Austria's last Empress, the 91-year-old Zita, announced that documents, proving that Prince Rudolf was murdered, would be published in a new biography *of her husband, the Emperor* Karl, who died in Madeira in 1924.

These documents include a letter from Rudolf to an uncle describing how Georges Clemenceau, later Prime Minister of France, had urged the Crown Prince to stage a coup so that Austria could escape its ties with imperial Germany and join an alliance with France.

Although Prince Rudolf was notoriously francophile, despising Prussian militarism and Austria's increasing dependence on Berlin, he refused, with the result that Clemenceau, so the letter says, threatened to kill him.

With this letter is the first Vienna police report on the affair. This refers to "unmistakeable evidence that the Crown Prince struggled with four assassins".

Both documents, the Empress claims, were kept secret to prevent the truth of Prince Rudolf's francophile feelings from upsetting Austro-German *relations*.

But their publication yesterday was greeted with scepticism by many Austrians, several of whom expressed disbelief. "This is our Hitler's Diaries", said one count, himself a veteran of a dragoon regiment decimated on the Russian front in 1915.

Several *historians speculated* on the possibility that the Empress is attempting to remove the stain of suicide in rder to facilitate her husband's canonization. For some years the Vatican has been investigating the Emperor Karls life with a view to proclaiming him a saint.

But members of the Habsburg family in Austria forcefully denied this yesterday, saying that the Empress merely wanted to shatter the Mayerling myth and end the stream of sentimental clichés it had inspired.

SPECTRUM

Hope is all but dead for many Lebanese. Every day sees a new boatload of them leaving their homeland; families who never want to see their country again, who have given up all hope. But in his concluding article from Beirut, Robert Fisk finds that kindness and hospitality still exist alongside the horror

Escaping from the human zoo of hatred


MAGNUM

Two little girls watch as palls of black smoke rise above a bombed petrol depot in Tripoli

The Lebanese are always talking about the need to get away from their despair, and at first you wonder why they don't travel into the mountains. True, the old watering holes of Bhamdoun and Aley are battlefields, but it is not difficult to find an excuse to go further north. There are US missiles at Aqoura, according to a leftist newspaper, so we drive off in the early afternoon, turning up from the Mediterranean and climbing into the Sierras where the air turns cold and the road becomes a frozen, muddy track.

Along precipices by the snowline the Laqlouq mountains appear on our left then twist round and return mischievously on our right until, across a little ditch, there is an entire Roman temple, the guttering off its roof, the hand-carved tablet of an Aurelian legion lying on its side. A Lebanese soldier offers us coffee in a damp tent he will be wearing an American marine uniform soon – all his men will – and he says it makes them feel confident.

We climb higher where the air gets rarer past Phoenician caves in the frost. There are no missiles. But then, there in the clouds on a plateau, we almost drive into s squadron of heavy tanks, hulls down in the mud, barrels pointing through the fog towards us, Lebanese troops across the road, rifles at the ready. How do you escape from Lebanon?

It happens all the time, this sudden contrast of light and darkness. It is June, 1982. The Israelis are advancing up the Arqoub and the incoming shells are vibrating through the ground, but when we stop to ask a man the name of his village, his young wife runs out and asks us into their home for coffee – good, kind people who demonstrate how strong are the ties of hospitality and generosity, even at moments of great danger. We sit in the darkened front room, staring at each other, listening to the shells slamming into the ground, smelling the cordite. How could such people allow Lebanon to slip so far?

She complained my clothes smelt of death

Months later, further north, we are driving through the Bekaa, (rpt: Bekaa), turn a corner and there are hooded gunmen across the road. Nothing is so concentrating to the mind as the sight of a man in a hood. Executioners wear hoods. One of them comes to the car window. His hood is a large glossy red bag with an open zip for his mouth and two crude slits for his eyes.

"British journalist," I hear myself say and he wants to know the politics of *The Times*. He starts a discussion, right there on the open road in his hood with his gun in his hand, on the ethics of press freedom. When I tell him the pen is mightier than the sword, he smiles. I know he is smiling because through the slits I can see his eyes narrow slightly. We can go.

To the Lebanese now, this sort of thing is the presentiment of fear, that calculated moment when a country self-destructs and produces something quite dreadful amid the mundane and the beautiful. How does one otherwise account for a visit to Baalbek to meet Hussein Moussawi, whom the Americans suspect planned the October bombings?

A Lebanese who knows the road well claims that travelling from Baalbek to Beirut is like going from the jungle to the zoo. He's right. There was a man who turned up with a coffee stall outside the Chatila Palestinian refugee camp three hours after the massacre, knowing that those who had to bury the dead would be thirsty. Fifty pence a cup. Hard times.

They say that the children of Beirut need more and more psychological help, though there are those who suspect it may be their parents who need assistance. We all suffer from bad dreams. After Chatila, I woke up convinced there were corpses stacked on my bed. In the morning Ayesha, my cleaning lady, who once protested about the din of shellfire while washing my floor, complained that I had been in the camps so long my clothes smelt of death. In a nightmare once, a jet flew right through my bedroom wall and out the window.

Most troubling of all are the unanswered questions. Nothing quite like Lebanon has ever happened before. Perhaps none realize this more painfully now then the army which came into the country so blithely and at such cost in human suffering in the summer of 1982. The darkness is closing over the Israelis, too, in Lebanon, and their fear is also palpable on the cold roads to the south, unsmiling, waiting to be attacked. Then someone breaks the pattern and a soldier becomes a human.

Just south of Damour an Israeli is sitting on a office swivel chair atop a bank of earth, but he walks over to our car because he sees a colleague and his child in the back seat. The little girl is seven and is mesmerized by the soldier's rifle. The Israeli leans into the car and shakes her hand. "My name is Itsaac", he says, and you can tell he wants to be smiled at. We wish each other safe home. Long after the Israelis retreated out of Damour Itsaac's chair remained perched on the earth embankment. Now, when we are driving up the road through shellfire, we know we are halfway to safety when we see Itsaac's chair.

Do the armies of Lebanon possess any poets to catalogue their journey down their long, profound dull tunnel? Perhaps we meet them. We are in the Chouf foothills and come across an Israeli armoured unit bivouacked beside an olive grove. The officer shouts at us to go away, but one of the soldiers is very young: he has a big, open face full of friendliness and asks the girl travelling with me to take his photograph as he sits on his armoured vehicle. She does and he gives us his address, but when we later develop the picture it comes out a curious sepia brown and the young man's hairstyle looks strangely old-fashioned, his armoured personnel carrier, a relic of Cambrai rather than Lebanon. Is this really the young man we met? We send the photograph off to Israel and wonder if he is alive.

Is it only Lebanon that can turn Clausewitz on his head and make diplomacy the logical extension of war, a country in which political dialogue is a possible, though not probable, outcome of bloodshed, in which a group of bored, largely old men can meet at last in Geneva and conclude only that their country is Arab (then disagree afterwards)?.

Each day now, a ship, a converted British Rail ferry called the "Earl Citrine", steams past my window for Cyprus, butting into the winter storms off the Corniche. In the old days it carried the Lebanese who merely wanted to escape the war while the airport was closed. Now it is carrying many of them away forever: families who never want to see their country again, who have given up all hope.

There are more portents of a titanic upheaval

From the boat, you can just see the old Crusader castle at Byblos, one of the oldest inhabited towns on earth where we still go on Sundays to sit in the Roman and Phoenician ruins. It is a glowering autumn day and the rains have washed away the mud above the Byblos rocks. From the soft earth, we are pulling fractured pieces of old Greek jars with dark painting round the lips, and small bits of mosaic of delicate greens and whites and light reds. And then there is one distant burst of gunfire from far to the south-east, from the Metn hills or the Chouf, and even the old curator who is watching us turns away.

The instant cannot be analysed. It is like that moment in *The Cherry Orchard* when Madame Ranevsky and her friends are picnicking and there is a distant breaking sound as if a cable in a mineshaft has snapped. You experience these moments more and more frequently in Lebanon these days, portents of some titanic upheaval yet to come. In the past, we dismissed them. Now it is not so easy.

Tomorrow

The making of bestseller

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moreover... Miles Kington

Vintage words of 1983

Like everyone else, we've been asking personalities of 1983 to name their favourite reading matter from the last twelve months . . .

Lord Dacre of History: I was tremendously impressed by Attila the Hun's personal journals, published privately somewhere in East Germany. They go a long way to showing that Attila was not just a military leader of genius, he was also a fine writer and linguist, as the diaries are written in perfect English on W. H. Smith reporter's note pads, which are not previously known to have existed at his time. Thrilling, extraordinary stuff, and I am privileged to have been able to see them, if only for two minutes.

I have also seen a book called *Good Times, Bad Times*, which relates such weird events concerning such far-fetched people that I am bound to conclude it is almost certainly a crude fake. Thrilling stuff, all the same.

General Galtieri: My favourite reading has been the *Annals of the Argentine Law Society* (*Vol XVII: Courts Martial*). What a tale of injustice, of martyrdom, of wrongs unrighted! My only criticism of the book is that there is no mention of my own forthcoming court martial, which of course I shall be reporting exclusively for Moreover. So, stand aside, St Joan! Move over, Edith Cavell! I also very much enjoyed the memoirs of Sir Harold Evans, whose junta fell at about the same time as mine.

Dr Sir Roy Strong, VA and bar: I was absolutely bowled over by the first book of photographs by Prince William, probably the best of the current crop of royal photographers. Of course, the Royal Family have always had tremendously talented male figures. Have you seen the Albert show yet? Breathtaking. Do come along. You'll easily get in. Any trouble, and just mention my name.

Oh, and I thoroughly enjoyed Harry Evans's latest thriller, *Murdoch Most Foul*.

Geoff Boycott, talking to Rene McGrit: Stunned. That is how I felt when I heard the news. The unbelievable news that shocked a nation. The news that I, who had served Yorkshire man and boy for over 1,000 years, was being dropped like an old sock that the dog no longer wants.

As my mind slowly took in the unimaginable, I thought of the other great misunderstood heroes of our time. I thought of the books I had enjoyed so much this year by Peter Hall, General Galtieri, Desmond Wilcox and others, and I felt I was not alone. I also enjoyed Harold Evan's account of life at the top, *250,000: Innings Declared*.

Lord Peter Hall of the National: I have had no time this year except for the writing and reading of my own diaries, but my goodness what an achievement! The scope and vision of this epic work encompasses today's troubled world as does no other work of art except perhaps *Seberg*, for which seats are still available. Curiously enough they both share a central figure, martyred and misunderstood by inferior forces. I wonder if my diaries would make a good musical? Well, stranger things have happened. Especially at the National.

I have also enjoyed Nurse Harold Evan's autobiography, *Journalism Is Not Enough*.

Sir John Betjeman:
Goodness, what a startling query!
Which new volumes have I read?
Well, these days I get quite weary
And I spend my time in bed
Ever since one Frank Delaney
Came to see me at my house,
A smiley chap, not very brainy,
Much more Irish charm than nous.
Treated me just like a chat show,
Went away and wrote a book
With a snap of me, quite macho,
On the cover, if you look.
Well, I'd better recommend it
If he needs a few spare bob.
So buy it for yourself, or send it
Through the post to Uncle Rob.
That is all, I think – good heavens!
One huge book I can't forget,
Written by a chap called Evans,
But I've not begun it yet.

Home front handicap

War is too important a subject to be left to the military historians, and so social-history research continues to concentrate on the impact war has on society. The Social History Society conference in Sheffield in the New Year takes "War and Society" as its theme. Two of the plenary sessions will be taken up with the effects of "total war" – that is, war in which participation is not limited to those soldiers fighting, but involves the entire civilian population.

Dr Clive Emsley, of the Open University, is using the model of Britain and France during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars – arguably the first example of "total war" – to dispute this idea of the "participation by social change: women getting the vote, and increased job opportunities, for example, after the First World War.

Dr Emsley joins the growing band of historians like Martin Pugh at Newcastle and David Englander and Tony Mason, authors of *War and Politics: the Experience of Servicemen in Two World Wars*, which Macmillan are bringing out in the spring, who are sceptical of the participation–reward equation, are inclined to think that the First World War, far from advancing the cause of women's suffrage, retarded it, and in general believe that the Poor Bloody Infantry remain the Poor Bloody Infantry in peacetime too.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research

Social History

Cottage industry



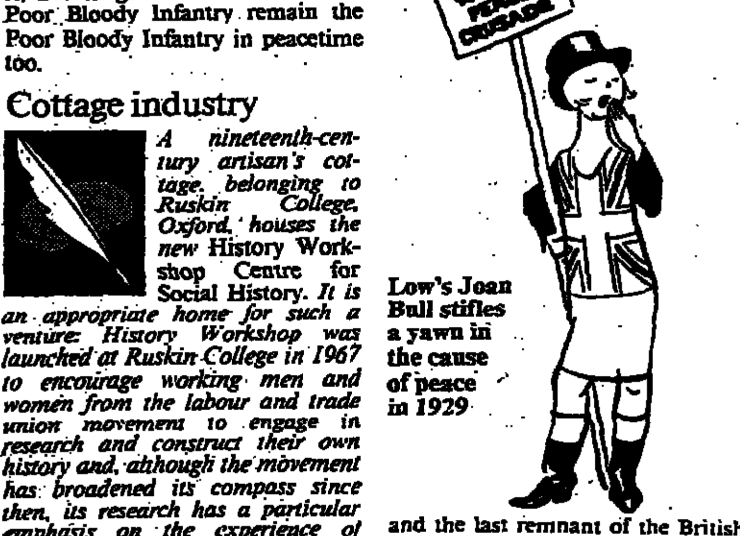
A nineteenth-century artisan's cottage, belonging to Ruskin College, Oxford, houses the new History Workshop Centre for Social History. *It is an appropriate home for such a venture: History Workshop was launched at Ruskin College in 1967 to encourage working men and women from the labour and trade union movement to engage in research and construct their own history and, although the movement has broadened its compass since then, its research has a particular emphasis on the experience of labour history, local history and oral history.*

The Centre, which will organize seminars and research projects throughout the country, and will also work with centres abroad such as the Ecole des Hautes Etudes in Paris, the Max Planck Institute, Gottingen, and the Raggioneri Institute in Florence, will have the same aims as the History Workshop has always had: to eliminate the divisions between the "production" and "consumption" of history, to widen the scope and direction of history teaching in schools, to act as a social history research centre for part-time historians and local groups, and to associate scholars and researchers in collaborative projects.

Its researchers will continue the preoccupation with the history of gender division, family and home, and the Centre intends to become a focus for the study of the history cultures that go to make up Britain.

Cartoon catalogue

A grant from the Leverhulme Trust has enabled the Centre for the Study of Cartoon and Caricature at the University of Kent to begin the considerable task of indexing and cataloguing the cartoons of that creator both of "Joan Bull", the new, modern woman of the 1920s,



Low's Joan Bull stifles a yawn in the cause of peace in 1929

and the last remnant of the British Empire spirit, the choleric Colonel Blimp, David Low. The Centre, set up 10 years ago, now houses more than 60,000 original drawings of cartoons published in the twentieth century, and the curator and Research Fellow, Jim Schoff, believes that it is not only political cartoons which are valuable sources for the assumptions of their age. Consequently the Centre has holdings not only of the work of such cartoonists as Vicky, Strube and Will Dyson, but also representatives of the social comments contained in Carol Day, the Flutters, Flook – and, of course, Andy Capp.

Marriage factor



Historians used to assume that population growth in Europe was the result of rising birth rates and falling death rates. Now, however, it is recognized that the principal control on population growth has seen changes in the institution of marriage. Unlike birth and death, the decision to marry was always sensitive to social and economic changes for in Western Europe, marriage and economic independence were closely related.

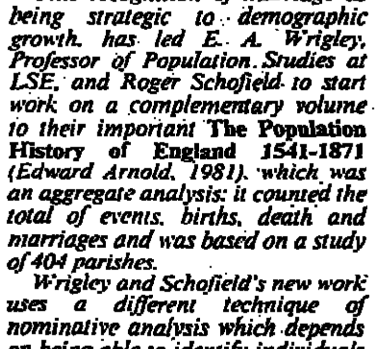
This recognition of marriage as being strategic to demographic growth, has led E. A. Wrigley, Professor of Population Studies at LSE, and Roger Schofield to start work on a complementary volume to their important The Population History of England 1541-1871 *(Edward Arnold, 1981), which was an aggregate analysis: it counted the total of events, births, death and marriages and was based on a study of 404 parishes.*

Wrigley and Schofield's new work uses a different technique of nominative analysis which depends on being able to identify individuals in family reconstruction. Using the parish registers of some 20 parishes from 1538, when such records were first kept, until the mid-nineteenth century when the census started to schedule individual households, the authors have selected places which represent as wide a spectrum as possible. They are studying remote, upland agricultural parishes, where the economy was being transformed by proto-industrialisation, and also small market towns, to trace changes in the institution of marriage in the early modern period.

Patient's view



This winter, in a series of seminars convened by Dr Roy Porter, the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine has been looking at the experience of disease and illness from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century from the point of view of the patient and sufferer rather than from the viewpoint of doctors and specialists. Contributors drew their evidence from Puritan diaries like those of Pepys and Ralph Josselin, from tracts on medical care, adverts for patent medicine and from reconstructions of the lay rituals of childbirth and death.




An English terrace and a Scottish tenement

Living space

Why does housing vary from region to region? Why were self-contained houses or cottages or terraces built in England and Wales whereas the pattern in Edinburgh and Glasgow was tenements? And what was the effect of this? These are the sort of questions social historians are asking as they turn their attention to housing – traditionally the preserve of the economic or architectural historian – in an attempt to get away from the view that housing is simply an investment in bricks and mortar.

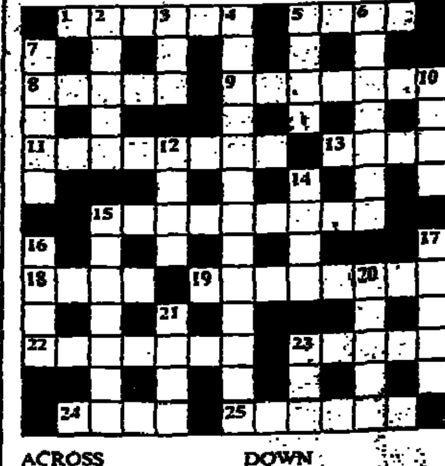
Martin Daunton, in his book on working-class housing (1983) and John Barnett, in his research, see houses as the containers of social life and consider the articulation of space within them: the strict segregation in the nineteenth century upper- and middle-class houses between adults, children and servants, and the reintegration of this space in the twentieth century. David Englander charts the social conflicts that arises from housing in his book *Landlords and Tenants in Urban Britain, 1838-1918 (1983)*.

Juliet Gardner




Doctors dissect a corpse: a Hogarth drawing

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 228)



ACROSS
1 Japanese battle cry (6)
5 Take off (4)
8 Trudge (5)
9 Drinking glass (7)
11 Mistaken idea (8)
13 Willingly (4)
15 Thought transference (9)
18 Fully developed (4)
19 Dutch spirit (8)
22 Knotted thread work (7)
23 Free from restraint (5)
24 Unite by treaty (5)
25 One or other (6)

DOWN
2 Advantage (5)
3 Fastening device (3)
4 Introverted (13)
5 Mute (4)
6 Unsound reasoning (7)
7 Learn (5)
10 Rip (4)
12 QC's gown (4)
14 Render unconscious (4)
15 Characteristic (7)
16 Tot (4)
17 Pallid (5)
20 Question closely (5)
21 Watchful (4)
23 Ignited (3)

SOLUTION TO No 227
ACROSS: 1 Peccadillos 9 Ageless 10 Title 11 See 13 Onto 16 Poor 17 Dimple 18 Sold 20 Beam 21 Polite 22 Thin 23 Tara 25 Nib 28 Fauna 29 Achieve 30 Necessitate
DOWN: 2 Event 3 Crew 4 Doss 5 Lute 6 Outwore 7 Jacob's staff 8 Gerrymander 12 Eclair 14 Odd 15 Emboli 19 Leisure 20 Bet 24 Avert 25 Nape 26 Bass 27 Shut

هكذا من الأصل

FASHION gifts for men by Suzy Menkes

1 Stained glass window patterned cardigan in loden, peat and petrol, £75 from Marcel Lassance Shop, Great Marlborough Street, W1. Also Ice, St Christopher's Place, W1, Cookes, Walthamstow, E10, Raffles; Manchester. Cream brushed-cotton shirt £25, cashmere tie £19.50, leather riding ribbed knit gloves, brown flannel trousers £49.50, all from Grey Flannel, 7 chiltern Street, W1. Loden beret by Kangol £5.99 from Gee 2 Covent Garden, Marble Arch and SW3.

2 Denim blue polo shirt and ochre sweatshirt, both £17.50, brick red track pants £26.50, ochre/grey stripey socks £3.25, all from (bx:z), St Christopher's Place, W1 Leather desert boots £39.99 from Russell and Bromley.

3 Black rubber belt £14.95, grey and black woven ikat shirt £22.95 both from Sprint, 39 Long Acre, WC2, 58a Brompton Road, SW1, 90 and 95 King's Road, SW3 and Chelsea Man concessions Glasgow, Dundee, York, Coventry, Bath. Blue cotton trousers £39.50 from Gee 2, Long Acre WC2.

4 Black watch with fluorescent hieroglyphics by Laurens £45 from Paul Smith, 43/44 Floral Street, Covent Garden, WC2; 23 Avery Row W1, Byard Lane, Nottingham.

5 Graphic black and white sweater, also khaki/white £75, checked scarf £49, both by Giorgio Armani from Gee 2, Long Acre, WC2, Marble Arch, King's Road, SW3. Cotton dress shirt £10.99 from selected Marks & Spencer stores. Black silk bow tie £7.15 Liberty. Grey herringbone trousers with blue pinstripe £29.95 from Sprint, 39 Long Acre, WC2, 58a Brompton Road, and Chelsea Man. Patent lace-ups £35, Hobbs.

6 Original 1950s paisley shirt £10 (from Covent Garden shop only), whipcord paisely waistcoat £39.99, cord pleat waist trousers £42, studded leather belt £31.95, tortoiseshell glasses £20. All from Paul Smith, 43/44 Floral Street, W2, 23 Avery Row, W1 and 10 Byard Lane, Nottingham.

7 Navy suede slippers with gold imperial print by Jean Muir for Men, approx. £43 from Campus Group, Oxford, Nottingham, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow; John Catton, Glastonbury. Socks Liberty.

8 Oxblood leather brogues £29.99 from Hobbs sale, South Molton Street, W1, King's Road, SW3, Hampstead and Guildford. Socks from Liberty. Fleck tweed trousers £29.95 from Sprint, Long Acre, WC2, Brompton Road, SW1, King's Road and Chelsea Man.

9 Tan leather lace-up shoes £39.99 Russell & Bromley, 24 New Bond Street, W1 and branches. Mixed tartan trousers £79, peach socks £5.25, Paul Smith 43/44 Floral Street, WC2 and branches.

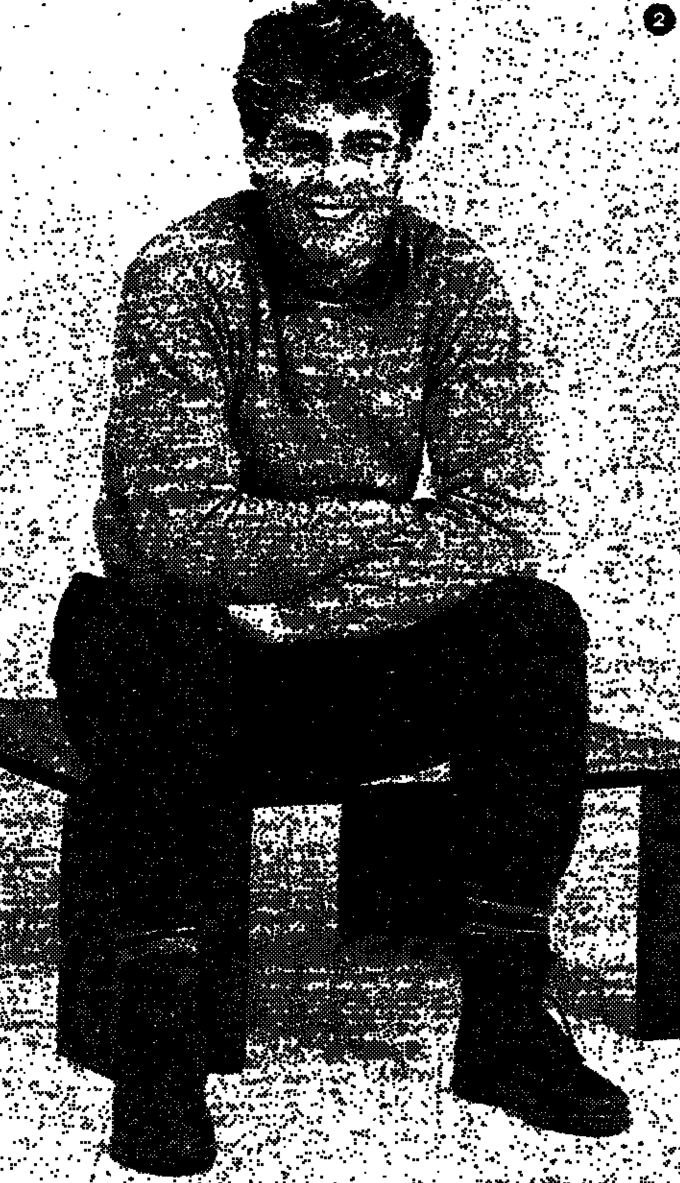
10 Jean Muir for Men claret red moiré silk robe, also navy and grey, £250 from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1, Browns, South Molton Street, W1, The Campus Group Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Nottingham, Oxford. Matching moiré slippers by Jean Muir from Campus Group, John Catton Glastonbury. White wing-collar dress shirt £39.95, paisley silk bowtie £9.75, silver ball cufflinks £11.95, all from Hilditch & Key, 73 and 37 Jermyn Street, SW1. Silk socks £6.95 Liberty. "Balluff" corner unit from Habitat.

11 Mustard wool chunky sweater £42, check scarf £5.50, rubber studded gloves £5. All from Paul Smith, 43/44 Floral Street WC2, Nottingham. Irish tweed hat £19.50 from Grey Flannel, 7 Chiltern Street, W1. Tweed trousers £29.95 Sprint, Long Acre.

Fashion by CHRISTINE PAINELL. Hair by Gary at Molton Brown. Photographs by RUSSELL MALKIN.



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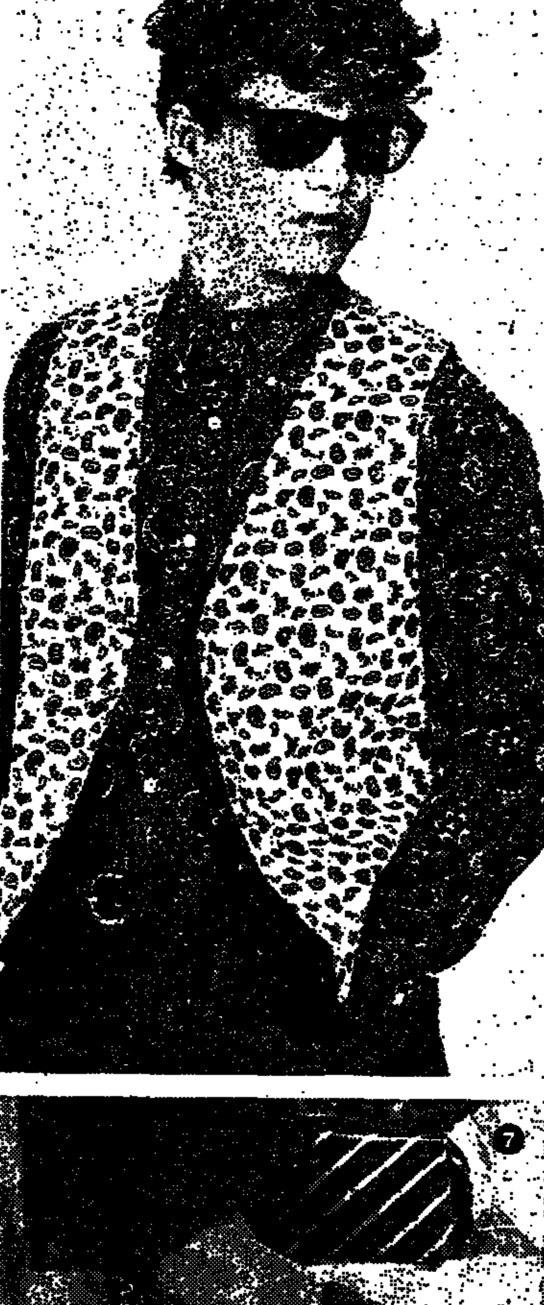
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Knowing your own image is the secret of style and *the essence of present giving. Buying for men is* traditionally supposed to be difficult because there are fewer first class male gifts. But the conventional ideas – scarves, socks, slippers and sweaters – can have an edge of style. For men to buy themselves, or receive from their loved ones, here are a sackful of ideas for Christmas.

ACTION MAN

Whites Xmas . . . white tennis belt with Gucci motif £8 from Gucci, 27 Old Bond Street, W1.
In the bag . . . heavy duty Barbour bags £19.50 from the Country Shop at Austin Reed, Regent Street and branches.
Ski-man . . . Carrera's wrap round goggles £23, curved black and white sports sunglasses by Porsche Design £40, both from For Eyes, 21 James Street, Covent Garden WC2, 16 High Holborn WC1, 97a Golders Green Road NW11.
Feeling ropey . . . freshen up with Goya's soap on a rope (£2.35). Body Splash (£2.20) or the Cedar Wood After Shave Atomiser (£1.99).
Wolf in sheep's clothing . . . stone grey ribbed Jacob's wool sweater £33.95 from Moss Bros, Covent Garden and branches.
Order of the bath . . . Givenchy's blue and white cotton quilted wrap towelling lined £85 from Harrods.
Low dives . . . Porsche's Ocean watch in iridescent titanium, waterproof up to 2,000 metres. Price £1,200 from the Porsche shop at Harvey Nichols.

CHIC

Cutting a dash . . . Hilditch and Key's cut-away collars on neat flag-bright red, white and blue striped shirts, from £29.95.
Extra cover . . . marbelized handle on the Aramis umbrella free with two or more fragrance purchases. From Aramis counters at Debenhams, Harrods, Selfridges.
Bow peep . . . traditional foulard silk bow tie £25.50 and matching handkerchief, both from Alfred Dunhill Ltd, 30 Duke Street, Saint James's.
Getting ahead with a hat . . . trilbies and toppers, bowlers and mobster hats, all from Moss Bros, Covent Garden.
Waist not want not . . . burgundy lizard skin belt, also black, £65 from Alfred Dunhill, 30 Duke Street, Saint James's.
Three piece sweet . . . elegant brocade waistcoats for day or evening suits £200 in fabrics to order from Tommy Nutter 18/19 Savile Row, W1.
Reactionary chic . . . embroidered waistcoats, silk cravates, tapestry braces, top hats, tie pins and studs. All from stands at Antiquarius, 135-141 King's Road SW3.

MODERNIST

Tough as steel . . . stainless brushed finish and gold plated bezel tie bar £25. Cufflinks £35. Millenium bold faced watch £325, all from Alfred Dunhill, 30 Duke Street. Saint James's.
Earning your stripes . . . Van Heusen's 100 per cent cotton shirts with red, grey and white stripes and white collar, £23.75 from major stores.
Geometricks . . . alpaca mix geometric sweater with Alcantara trim £59 Selfridges.
Skin deep . . . elegant silver and grey packaged Clinique's Skin Supplies for Men fitness and grooming products. From Harrods and major stores.
Square face . . . Gucci's name round the face of a gold plated quartz watch with white, black or champagne face £195 from 27 Old Bond Street W1.
Sock it to him . . . cotton and lisle fancy socks in a rainbow of colours £3.50 from Austin Reed, Regent Street and branches.
Warm hands, warm heart . . . Armani's cashmere and leather gloves £30 from Browns, 27 South Molton Street.

COOL

Vintage brew . . . silver and black thirties cuff-links £5 to £10 from Paul Smith, 43/44 Floral Street, 23 Avery Row W1 and 10 Byard Lane, Nottingham.
New geometry . . . Pringle's bright graphic patterned sweaters £39 from the sports department at Austin Reed.
Spots before the thighs . . . Crolla's pink and white spotted boxer shorts, from a selection of fancy pants £11 from Crolla, 35 Dover Street W1.
Heart on your feet . . . hand-knitted socks scattered with hearts in fondant colours £12. *Multi-patterned Missoni socks* £15. Both from Browns, 27 South Molton Street.
Close shave . . . Gillette's stylish stainless steel and black *Contour razor £1.20.*
Paisley prints . . . silk and wool scarves £16.95 and matching bow ties £6.50 by Comfort. Armani silk twill scarves £39.50. Both from Liberty.
Hair-raising . . . Molton Brown's seaweed setting lotion £3.15 for 300ml from Molton Brown, 58 South Molton Street.

FUN

Christmas stockings . . . red cotton socks with Xmas tree motif from a selection of fantasy socks, £11 from Crolla, 35 Dover Street W1.
Boxing clever . . . Johnny Lamb's fantasy patterned boxer shorts, including dots, flowers and patchwork, £16 from Brown's Man's shop.
Back to front . . . reversible leather belts from £9.50, school boy stripes £4.95 from Jaeger.
Poster paint bright . . . fringed lambswool scarf in 42 colours from fuschia to cobalt £19.50 from Harrods.
Night stripes . . . Liberty print fine striped tana lawn night shirt £33 from Liberty, Regent Street W1.
Rainbow-coloured . . . watches in red, blue, yellow and black £18.95 from Austin Reed, Regent Street and branches.
Holly and ivy . . . canvas and pigskin red and green striped belt £45 *from Gucci, 27 Old* Bond Street W1.

Little black dressing . . . Anne Tyrrell's evening collection in Harrods After Six department is produced by Ronald Joyce.

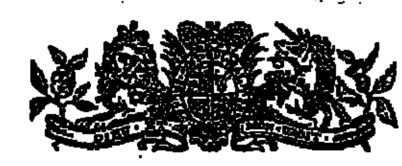
SHOPPERS' DIARY

Anne Beckwith-Smith, Lady in Waiting to the Princess of Wales, was reconnoitoring the jewels at the opening of Hennell's new Bond Street shop on Tuesday.

The glamorous young Duke of Westminster unveiled the stunning collection of jewels which included sapphires as big as the Ritz – a copy of a flower diamond necklace made by Hennell's *for actress Joan Crawford in* the 1930s.

More discreet (and definitely more regal) was a diamond necklace that once belonged to Empress Eugénie and a drop pearl and diamond Russian tiara that attracted the enthusiasm of *several of the guests including* Lord Lichfield's wife Leonora and Anthony Andrews.

Over in Fulham on Monday, I bumped into *Princess Michael* of Kent doing her Christmas shopping for another kind of jewelry at Butler and Wilson. The princess in mauve tweed *trimmed* with lilac fur, was drawn to earrings of the same colour – part of the delicious collection of paste that twinkles in this Aladdin's cave of fashion jewelry.



THE TIMES DIARY

For David read David

David Steel has not been able to find the time to address the Liberal candidates' annual conference at Trinity College, Oxford next month. After Steel turned down the invitation, Alan Watson, chairman of the Liberal Candidates' Association and the party's president elect, asked David Owen, who accepted with his usual alacrity. However it doesn't look as if Owen is planning a takeover. Last Friday he spent £96.95 in Hatchards of Piccadilly on a selection of books including William Manchester's *One Shining Moment*, two copies of *A Social History of England* by Asa Briggs and four of Nigel Calder's *1984 and After*. He deliberated hard and long over a biography of Lloyd George but left without buying it.

Sacrifice for art

The Royal College of Art receives more than £30,000 a year from charging applicants an "administration fee" at £20 each to apply for post-graduate courses. Similar applications to the Courtaulds Institute are free. The RCA says that, unlike the Courtauld, it has to pay "heavy postage for returning portfolios out of London". The £20 fee is not returnable if you fail to gain a place; neither is the £2 charge for the prospectus.

Off–target

A plan to twin with a local authority in Russia or another Eastern bloc country has been approved by Kirklees Council, West Yorkshire.

The idea, originating from the council's peace committee, is not universally appreciated. The Conservative group leader, John Holt, has said that if the council wanted to make a gesture to communist Europe it should twin with a town which, like Huddersfield, Kirklees' biggest town, had been declared a nuclear-free zone. However, the Soviet bloc doesn't seem to contain such a town.

BARRY FANTONI



"I'm collecting for unwanted cabbage Patch dolls this Christmas."

Not to be missed

Eileen Fairweather, this year's winner of the Catherine Pakenham Award, intends to break with tradition when she receives her prize at lunchtime today. Instead of a modest "Thank you", Ms Fairweather says she is going to make a speech attacking sexist attitudes in Fleet Street. A case in point, she thinks, was the front-page treatment given to the Brighton boy who was sexually assaulted – "when a girl is attacked it seldom results in so much sympathy and offers of presents". Her own winning article was a piece on King's Cross prostitutes, which appeared in *New Society*. "It's not often", she says "that a feminist is able to address a captive Fleet Street audience, but I hope to make my case in a reasonably charming and witty way".

Mullin it over

In the readers' letters column of the current issue of Tribune, the editor, Chris Mullin, is angrily attacked for refusing to publish an article by Sarah Roelofs on a meeting between Sinn Fein and Labour Party women. One of several reproving letters carries 23 signatories. This is rough on Mullin, who insists that he didn't even commission the article in the first place: "I only discussed it."

● Oxford University Press has sent out a Christmas card with greetings in 22 languages. The Hebrew greeting is upside down.

One-nil

Throughout his 13-year career in the House of Commons, Eric Moonman, the former Labour MP for Basildon, never saw his name on an early day motion. Now that he is chairman of Islington health authority, the situation has changed: Jeremy Corbyn, Labour MP for Islington North, mentioned Moonman by name in an early day motion that is highly critical of the authority. Moonman thinks the absurdity of these motions is plumbing new depths.

A recent one put down by an MP for debate congratulated the winners of a football match. "Someone should look at the cost of printing this sort of thing", says Moonman. "It seems to me that if we're not careful, early day motions could be used as a substitute for a congratulatory telegram service."

PHS

The bombers' blueprint

George Brock looks at the real aims behind the campaign being waged by the Provisional IRA

It has been a motif of Provisional IRA propaganda for several years now that "one bomb in London is worth 50 in Belfast" and the lethal blast at Harrods has brought forth yet again the grim list of deaths on this side of the Irish Sea over the past 11 years. It begins with a car bomb outside the Parachute Regiment barracks in Aldershot in 1972 and continues, around 80 deaths later, with a car bomb in Knightsbridge on Saturday.

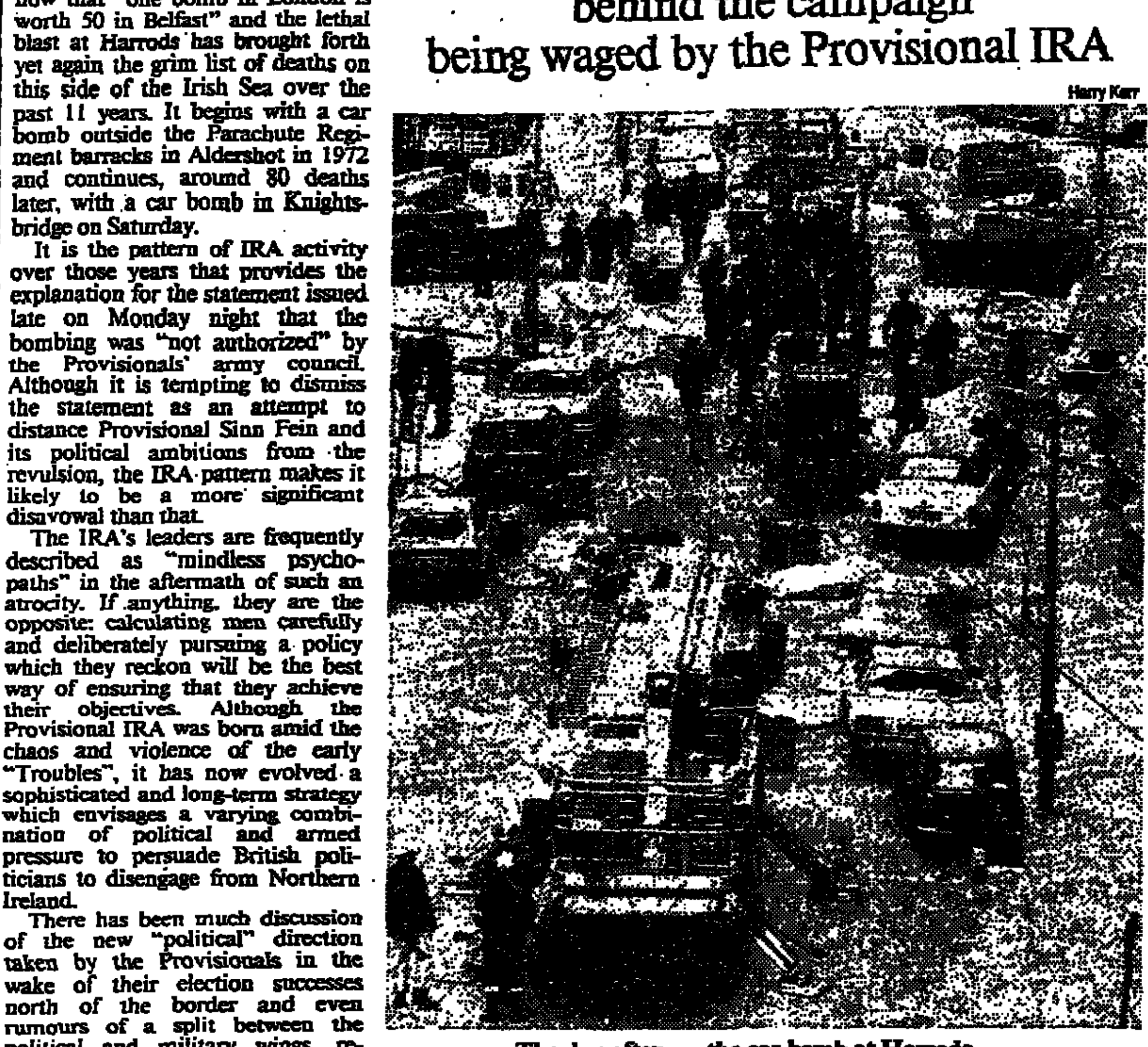
It is the pattern of IRA activity over those years that provides the explanation for the statement issued late on Monday night that the bombing was "not authorized" by the Provisionals' army council. Although it is tempting to dismiss the statement as an attempt to distance Provisional Sinn Fein and its political ambitions from the revulsion, the IRA pattern makes it likely to be a more significant disavowal than that.

The IRA's leaders are frequently described as "mindless psychopaths" in the aftermath of such an atrocity. If anything, they are the opposite: calculating men carefully and deliberately pursuing a policy which they reckon will be the best way of ensuring that they achieve their objectives. Although the Provisional IRA was born amid the chaos and violence of the early "Troubles", it has now evolved a sophisticated and long-term strategy which envisages a varying combination of political and armed pressure to persuade British politicians to disengage from Northern Ireland.

There has been much discussion of the new "political" direction taken by the Provisionals in the wake of their election successes north of the border and even rumours of a split between the political and military wings, revealed by the Harrods bomb. The Provisionals see no contrast or contradiction between the two. Their strategy moves flexibly – and not without internal disagreement – between both approaches. Few senior Provisionals, if any, believe that politics can replace "physical force". As one once put it: "We will be bombing and shooting until the ink is dry on the treaty document."

It is the IRA's central purpose to make Britain surrender its connexion with Northern Ireland. Every other motive it may claim or that may be claimed on its behalf, ranging from the physical protection of the Catholic population to the establishment of an all-Ireland socialist republic, is subsidiary to that aim.

The rate and type of violence is therefore judged against how effective it is supposed to be in changing minds. To date, the only public converts to withdrawal have been the *Daily Mirror*, Mr James



Harry Kerr

The day after . . . the car bomb at Harrods

Callaghan (who advocated an independent Northern Ireland in *1981*), most groupings to the left of the Labour Party and a minority of delegates to the Liberal Party annual assembly.

Some Provisional killings have turned out to be "counter-productive" even by their own criteria – most obviously the Birmingham pub bombings of 1974, in which 24 people died. Public opinion appeared to stiffen against any concession towards republican objectives and the attacks were followed by the introduction of the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The Provisionals have since developed the technique of the slow, relentless squeeze. In 1979, their spokesmen were talking of a politico-military campaign which would last 20 years or longer. This summer, one of them revised the estimate by saying that "we are not so sure that it will take that long now". Bombings and shootings happen at a rate which will gradually accumulate disillusion and the close of options other than withdrawal. For the Provisionals who direct, however vaguely, the sequence of attacks, this means only enough violence to remind people that they have not gone away

It is a curiously cautious strategy, producing a haphazard and attenuated series of outrages. It relies for its effect on the passage of time. It is important for the Provisionals not to precipitate any kind of reaction or climax that will make their squeeze harder to operate. It is in their interest to make Northen Ireland "ungovernable" but not to start a full-scale civil war. Too many bombs detonated too frequently in London would provoke too much government interest and activity in Northen Ireland – a change which might not necessarily lead to withdrawal.

There are several tactical strands within the overall strategy. The Provisionals have established, and maintain, an effective veto on constructive political movement inside the province. Its commanders are careful not to let the rate of violence fall below that minimum which signals to the world that life remains abnormal. The occasional killing of unionist politicians such as Robert Bradford and Edgar Graham ensure that their surviving colleagues cannot do or say anything which might be vulnerable to the charge of appeasement.

Members of the security forces, and particularly local men and women, are assassinated at a steady rate. Such murders are intended to keep up the pressure on the unionist community, to discourage recruits from joining the security forces and to drive Protestants out of border areas. The news of the latest killing was almost obliterated by events in London: a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was shot dead in front of his 10-year-old son at Maghera, County Londonderry, early on Saturday evening.

The campaign in mainland Britain is aimed at politicians who, it is hoped, will one day tire of paying the human and economic price of staying in Ireland. After the peak of 1974-5, which included the Birmingham and M62 bombs and the string of attacks carried out by the men eventually cornered at Balcombe Street, there was little Provisional activity between 1976 and 1981 (assuming that Airey Neave was killed by the INLA, who do not follow the dictates of Provisional strategy.)

The present phase of bombings began two years ago, shortly after the end of the hunger strike, with the remote-controlled bomb aimed at a coachload of Irish Guardsmen. Bombings are effective morale-boosters among the IRA rank-and-file and its leadership may have seen a need to make stronger gestures to their own followers after the hunger strike ended.

The role of bombs such as the one at Harrods within IRA strategy remains most accuratley described by an annymous spokesman for the organization interviewed last summer by the Dublin magazine *Magill*. "Our activity in Britain at any given time is dictated by our ability to strike there. It is still a target because we believe one bomb in Britain is worth 50 in Ireland. However, we do not intend to hold the British people responsible for their government's crimes in Ireland. Any attacks will be limited to the British political establishment and to military targets. And if there was a big growth in anti-war feeling in Britain we would have to revise our attitude."

Philip Jacobson on Washington's growing difficulties in El Salvador

Will the death squads kill off US policy?

The message was considered so important in Washington that Vice-President George Bush was sent to El Salvador to deliver it in person. He chose the moment carefully – a state banquet in his honour. As Salvadoran politicians and army officers listened with varying degrees of outrage, Mr Bush warned quite explicitly that US aid to their hard-pressed government is now seriously endangered by its utter failure to clamp down on the country's right-wing death squads.

When the American Ambassador to El Salvador said much the same thing in public about a year ago, he was swiftly censured by the White House and subsequently lost his job. Mr Bush went out of his way at the banquet and a press conference which followed to stress that his biting attacks on the extreme right had prior approval and full support from President Reagan. What's more, the Vice-President declared: "It isn't just the President or me or Congress. If these death-squad murders continue, you'll lose the support of the American people, and that would indeed be a tragedy."

In abandoning its previous, largely fruitless policy of "quiet diplomacy", the US has publicly shifted responsibility for rounding up the killers and the men behind them squarely on to the Salvadoran authorities. As the new American Ambassador, Thomas Pickering, told local businessmen the other day: "We are certain that these individuals are as well known to the security forces as they are to us who have been in the country only a short time."

Officials at the American Embassy are busily leaking detailed information about particularly notorious police and army officers to foreign journalists. Mr Bush has also promised that the Reagan Administration will hunt down vengeful Salvadorans who finance death-squad operations from luxurious exile in Miami.

Better late than never. Yet at the very moment when Washington is flexing its diplomatic and financial muscle in support of human rights in El Salvador, President Reagan has quietly killed off a law which provided the US with its strongest card in dealing with the Salvadoran authorities. Late last month he vetoed a Bill which would have renewed the Administration's obligation to certify to Congress every six months that the Salvadoran regime was doing enough to improve human rights to qualify for further military and economic aid.

Like his predecessors, Reagan guards presidential prerogatives jealously: he was known to consider the certification process too confining. But there had been no indication that he was preparing to torpedo it completely. The State Department certainly regarded certification as a useful, if limited, lever against the wilder fringes of the Salvadoran military. At the very least, it symbolized America's wish to help the defenceless ordinary people who provide the overwhelming majority of death-squad victims. It also provided encouragement for those Salvadoran officials and soldiers who are struggling – often at grave risk to themselves – to make their poverty-stricken little country a better place for all citizens.

The jubilation with which news of the President's veto was received by the most extreme right-wing groups in El Salvador suggests that they see it as acknowledging that the US will never abandon its client government, however bloodstained. Diplomatic sources there believe that Ambassador Pickering was in favour of maintaining the certification process: only a few days earlier, he had denounced the death squads as "fascists serving the communist cause".

This episode can only reinforce the growing impression that the Reagan Administration is now floundering badly in El Salvador. The President, in particular, seems unable to decide his main objectives. In one recent speech to a group of schoolchildren in the US he suggested that some of the corpses which turn up daily in parking lots and ditches are actually victims of Salvador's left-wing guerrillas, seeking to undermine American support for the regime.

The guerrillas certainly have murdered government officials, local militiamen, occasionally right-wing politicians. But there is no hard evidence whatsoever to support Mr Reagan's theory, while virtually every Salvadoran – and every US diplomat in the country – acknowledges the direct involvement of the security forces.

Some of the key figures in the death squads have already been identified in US newspapers: the much-feared Major José Ricardo Pozo of the Treasury Police; the intelligence chief of the national police; a provincial army commander. Clear links are also known to exist between known extremists and Major Roberto d'Aubuisson, head of the Salvadoran constituent assembly and the far right's likely candidate in presidential elections next March. It is no secret that the Americans believe d'Aubuisson is closely involved with the murder squads: for that very reason, he was recently refused a visa for a trip to the US.

What could the President have been trying to achieve by his dismissive remarks about death squads? State Department officials dealing with El Salvador were aghast at the undermining of their new tough line on the death squads. The *Washington Post* accused Reagan of "going a long way toward giving the killer right a free hand and relieving the Salvadoran authorities of anything about their deeds".

A moderate Salvadoran politician considered that the middle ground, already fearfully risky territory, was certain to become even more dangerous. With US military advisers in despair at the failure of the Salvadoran army to contain the guerrillas on the battlefield and the crucial presidential vote barely three months off, it is becoming increasingly difficult to discern any coherent policy in Washington.

Meanwhile, the bad news for Mr Reagan rolls in. Last week, the Salvadoran assembly finally approved an article for the country's new constitution which effectively blocks the possibility of sweeping land reform. It was a triumph for the assembly's right-wing coalition, which has bitterly opposed US-backed plans for large-scale redistribution of farmland to the poor. It was also a triumph of blatant intimidation by the death squads. The political debate was accompanied by a ruthless assault on agricultural trade unionists and members of collective farms.

Nine members of one small commune (two of them pregnant women) were kidnapped, tortured and strangled the night before I was due to meet them. Their broken bodies turned up by another co-operative farm, a grim and unmistakable warning. They were exactly the sort of people whose votes are going to be crucial for the election of the moderate Christian Democrat's presidential candidate, the respected José Napoleón Duarte.

All Salvadorans understand – even if some resent it – that sustained pressure from the US offers the only hope of stopping the slaughter of innocent civilians. Duarte acknowledged as much during a speech in Washington last week in which he praised the US for sharpening its public criticism of the death squads. "There is a chance that killings will increase during the election campaign", he warned. "The rightists will do all they can to discourage democracy."

Brave men like this, at the sharp end of US policies in El Salvador, have a right to expect consistent and unambiguous support from Washington.

John Hoagland/Gamma-Liaison



Victim of a death squad: and the killings are likely to increase

Roger Scruton

Laying down the law

The English legal system is rooted in common law, and decisions made by judges have led to an accumulated weight of tacit legislation which Parliament could overthrow only by destroying the basis of its own legislative competence. Some regret this fact, arguing that judges, since they are not elected representatives, ought not to make law. Others welcome it, arguing that judges, because they are not elected representatives, are competent to make law. No man becomes a judge merely by standing at the hustings and shrieking out his identity with a political party. To become a judge you need to know the law, and to have acquired long experience of its application in the concrete circumstances of human conflict. To become a member of the House of Commons you need no qualifications whatsoever.

At the same time, no judge can take the overarching, long-term view of things which we expect (and occasionally receive) from Parliament. It would be not so much optimistic as irrational to wish (with Professor Hayek) that all laws should issue slowly and piecemeal, from repeated applications of judicial reasoning. Although modern statutes are often hastily drafted, crudely debated, and ignorantly understood, it would be absurd to try to govern a modern society without a powerful legislative body able to dictate statutes to the courts.

But the dangers are obvious. How is Parliament to be controlled, and by whom? It is not enough to say: by the electorate. The electorate has a narrow choice between two or three major contenders, and is hardly likely to vote a government out of office for just this or that piece of legislative nonsense. Besides, by the time of an election, the damage may be done. Habits form quickly in politics and, as the history of industrial legislation displays, rights once granted to powerful bodies cannot easily be removed.

The obvious answer is that Parliament must be responsive to judicial criticism. One of the major virtues of the House of Lords is that it contains the highest judges in the land, who may influence the upper house to reject ill-considered legislation, or to introduce appropriate amendments. But valuable as this influence has been, it cannot suffice to correct the major defect of the House of Commons, which is its tendency to neglect the detail of human conflict in order to achieve a synthetic perspective, often guided more by ideology than by a concern for truth. The real test of law is in the courts, in confrontation with the human reality. Hence Parliament must listen to criticism, such as was offered on December 6 by the Court of Appeal in its judgment of the Dimbleby case. It was persuasively argued that the 1982 Employment Act contains a serious intellectual flaw which, properly exploited by management, would deprive unions of a power that they ought to have – the power to carry on a dispute with an employer who has tried to slip out of it by changing his legal identity.

Given the importance of judges in determining the character and conduct of our political process, how should a judge be educated? It is a wise principle of English law that High Court judges should be chosen, not from the ranks of solicitors, whose long-standing personal relation with their clients must inevitably conflict with the objective responsibility towards the law, but from the ranks of barristers, whose duty is to put the law on trial before the facts of human conflict, by making the best possible case for a particular judgment. And it is a further wise principle of our law – though one that is constantly threatened – that the two legal professions should be kept as far apart as is compatible with their constant need to cooperate.

The problem is therefore subsumed within another: how should a barrister be educated? I do not mean after qualifying, when experience is his master, but before qualifying, during the years when he acquires his "formal education". There has been a tendency in recent years for the Bar Council, and its educational arm, the Council for Legal Education, to believe that the main ingredient in a barrister's education should be *law*. In 1981, therefore, following the report of the Ormrod Committee, it was decreed that nobody should read for the Bar who has not obtained either a degree in law, or the diploma in law offered by the City University and the Polytechnic of Central London as a postgraduate qualification. After all, if a degree in law is worth anything, it is to a barrister, and what better qualification could he have?

This short-sighted view neglects the prime fact, which is that the education of the barrister is also the education of the judge. Common law judges are legislators, with a refined and far-reaching political function, who must be able to perceive both the deadness of dead legislation, and the vitality of new legal solutions. Our common law owes its strength to the creative genius of judges who, by obeying their own doctrines and principles, have generally proved more competent to untie the knots of human conflict than has Parliament. The greatest recent example of this creative genius – Lord Denning – did not read law at university, and displays in his judgments the broad education and culture which, by helping him to enter imaginatively into the conflict before him, have given substance and direction to his strikingly novel interpretations of the law.

How then should a barrister be educated? He needs imaginative understanding, literary competence, and common sense – gifts which some have thought to be acquired through study of the classics, some through the "practical criticism" of the Leavisites, some through philosophy, some through history, but none, so far as I know, through law.

William Safire

Man with a cargo of influence

Washington

This is the story of connexion. No hint of wrong-doing intended, just a demonstration of how a billionaire capitalist shipowner – who is also an adviser to the government of China – can gain frequent access to, and perhaps influence, a total stranger who is elected president of the United States.

Fleeing Shanghai when the communists took over in 1949, Yue-Kong Pao started a small trading company in Hongkong, bought an old coal-burning ship, and in 30 years built his stake and his genius for making connexions into a shipping empire to rival that of any Greek or Texan.

On the way he picked up a knighthood, transferred his political interest from capitalist Taipei to communist Peking, and was seen two years ago as a takeover threat by Jardine Matheson, the Hongkong business and property empire familiar to readers of James Clavell's novels.

When Ronald Reagan became president, Sir Y. K. Pao applied his connexion genius. The trick was to cultivate Michael Deaver, the presidential aide who controlled Mr Reagan's diary. Pao obtained an invitation to the inauguration ceremony – an easy matter for one of the world's wealthiest men – and arranged an introduction to Deaver.

Soon after, Deaver found himself at a Washington dinner party with Sir Y. K. as a fellow guest. They met socially, Deaver recalls now, as if the social occasion had not been arranged for the purpose of furthering their relationship.

On June 12, 1981 – the same day that the secretary of state, Mr Alexander Haig, arrived in Peking – Deaver ushered Pao into the Oval Office to meet President Reagan. The meeting lasted three of four minutes, Deaver now recalls, minimizing its significance, and he cannot remember the subject discussed.

Reached by telephone in Hongkong, Pao recalls that the meeting lasted about 20 minutes. To a president whose lifelong support of the Chinese Nationalist government in Taiwan was a worry to the People's Republic, Pao the go-between remembers pointing out the need for closer relations between Washington and Peking. During the meeting, Pao the businessman could not resist asking if Mrs Reagan would launch one of his ships.

On September 16 1982, soon after Reagan's turnaround on arms aid to Taiwan, Y. K. Pao was one of the guests at the White House state dinner honouring President Marcos of the Philippines. That was the toughest ticket in town, but Deaver delivered. On March 3 1983, at the dinner for the Queen in San Francisco, Y. K. Pao was there again.

On July 12 1983, Sir Y. K. was again in the Oval Office. According to Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, this was merely a handshake and a photograph, which is also how Deaver characterizes the visit. But Pao was reported by the *Far East Economic Review* 18 months earlier to have a large picture in his reception room of himself shaking hands with the President. He acknowledges this, and replies in a courteous if puzzled manner – why all this detail? – that this visit to Reagan also lasted about 20 minutes, and concerned Mexico.

Deaver's largesse with access to the President has not gone unreciprocated. As advance agent for Reagan's Asian trip last month, Deaver twice visited Honkong this year, once to scout it as a potential stop (lunch with Pao) and, after Hongkong was removed from Reagan's itinerary, for a lavish harbour cruise with 30 guests aboard Y. K's yacht.

Wasn't it somewhat presumptuous for a White House aide to take Reagan's reserve jumbo with 25 passengers plus crew to Hongkong for a dinner party? "It was on the way", says Deaver, who was going from Manila to Tokyo. In fact, it was 702 miles out of the way. "Frankly, I stopped in Hongkong to rest myself. We did some pretty hard work, and you've got to have some place to stop and rest before you go on."

An extra stop is not rest, but fun, costly to the taxpayer. For Y. K. Pao, whom Deaver credits with being the first to suggest that Reagan visit China – though that has yet to materialize – it was another great gain of prestige to have a presidential jet come to his city for the sole purpose of its passengers cruising about on his yacht.

What does the story of this connexion teach us? Because both Sir Y. K., who may one day be governor of Hongkong, and Deaver, who may one day finish writing his diet cookbook, returned my calls, this essay has a benign tone.

This lesson is not merely that this is still a world where a poor man can make a billion dollars. Beyond that, he can reach out to hobnob with and perhaps influence the highest and the mightiest, if he has a genius for making connexions.





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PRICE FOR THE JOB

A standard minimum wage, whether established by trade union agreement or official regulation, is a restrictive practice. Unless it is unenforced or ineffective through being set below the competitive market clearing rate, it results in the withholding of labour from that part of the economy which is subject to wage regulation. It denies jobs to those who seek employment in that sector, while reinforcing a contrived monopoly, or at least a scarcity of labour in it, to the advantage of those already holding jobs there. The cost of this restrictive practice falls also on consumers unless they can turn to competitive products from factories which escape the restriction on wages – an opportunity which is not often available. It falls much more heavily, of course, on people who are excluded from seeking work in those sectors, though their decisions are seldom taken seriously into account. It is official DHSS policy, for instance, explicitly to discourage the unemployed from accepting employment at wages below those set by collective agreement. They are thus officially dissuaded from pricing themselves into jobs; and the people in Britain who thus suffer most from this restrictive practice, shown up increasingly in the analysis of the unemployed, are the young, the black and the unskilled.

Regulated minimum wages apply to more than 70 per cent of Britain's working population, while statutory wage councils set minimum wages for about another 15 per cent. There is also evidence that in some unionized activities wages in practice are often linked to those set by trade unions or wage councils.

The major increase in unemployment in Britain cannot be understood without reference to these rigidities, to which trade union action has contributed both directly – through the closed shop and other restrictive aspects of wage bargaining – and indirectly through the influence it has had on government policies. Official attitudes to unemployment seldom take account of the element of wages in considering its alleviation, or how to cope with the poverty trap and the influence on employment of an over-rigid system of benefits.

In Britain over the past ten years there has been both a rise in real hourly earnings and a rise in unemployment, though the connexion between these two is either forgotten or wilfully overlooked. In the United States, by contrast, employment has expanded by 17 per cent in the same period, while real wages have fallen, pricing more people into jobs, mostly in the service sector. At last the moral appears to be getting through to the Government.

It started with Mr Lawson's recent paper to the NEDC, which, by indicating that growth in employment can be expected to predominate in the services, signalled an official end to the long-term obsession with the protection of manufacturing as the source of jobs and economic strength. That obsession held sway in the face of the secular trend in all developing economies away from manufacturing towards service industries and market service employment. The obsession, however, was not satisfied simply by subsidizing manufacturing as a means of easing the social pain of the economic transition to a more service-based economy. It reflected an abiding political belief – against all the evidence – that manufacturing was and should remain, the Holy Grail of economic strength.

Yesterday the Department of Employment published a research paper which proclaimed – as though in surprise – that the chances of young people finding work are affected by the level of pay they receive compared to adults. It followed a discussion paper from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research published in August which put its finger more firmly on the sore point of youth employment and training by revealing that British apprentices earn roughly three times as much relative to adult workers as do apprentices in Germany and Switzerland (60 per cent of adult wages in Britain, 20 per cent in Germany and Switzerland).

That distortion, said the authors, stemmed primarily from market imperfections caused by paying wages in excess of their market clearing level. It arose from minimum wage and social security legislation, public sentiment about what young people should be paid (though how that affected the attitudes of wage bargainers was not clear) and the exercise of monopoly bargaining power on the part of trade unions.

Here we come back to the trade unions and Mr Leon Brittan's speech on the closed shop delivered last weekend. The headlines concentrated on his statement that the closed shop, is itself, however enforced, a flagrant and fundamental denial of individual liberties. That is certainly a sound position of principle. But there is an equally important and urgent economic reason for dismantling it, which he put clearly later on in his speech.

"It has killed existing jobs and prevented new ones from being created. Those who use the closed shop to impose their own price on their own labour do so at the expense of the profits needed for tomorrow's investment and tomorrow's jobs. And they do so, too, at the expense of all those who might otherwise be employed if the rigid wage structures and restrictive practices which such unions enforce did not apply. That is why there is nothing fraternal about the closed shop."

By November 1984, the trade unions will be required to submit their closed shop arrangements to a ballot among employees, with an 80 per cent minimum requirement. Under the Employment Act 1982 these ballots can be held earlier at the Secretary of State's discretion. The Government is said to be taking stock of that possibility. It should expedite the decision to advance the ballot to an earlier date.

Action on the wages councils should follow soon after, since in 1985 Britain will be able to denounce the ILO Convention which under a 10-year rule covers them. The Government has already recognized how these wages councils tend to price young people out of jobs and says that it is reviewing the matter. An early decision in 1985, should be followed by legislation.

The main legal privileges of the trade unions are derived from legislation in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century when the conditions of the poor were the major topic of debate and it was widely held that the rich were somehow responsible for that condition. It was thought necessary to rectify the balance of power by extending the authority and immunity of collective action by workers in trade unions. By now it must be clear that the coercive and disruptive power of the closed shop, and the economic rigidities which ensue from it, have more than redressed that balance to the disadvantage of the unemployed and to the national economy as a whole.

In two other countries the effects and implications of wage regulation in adversely discriminating against people's employment opportunities have been clearly recognized for many years – the United States and South Africa. Their wage restrictions militate against black employment. How ironic it is, here in Britain, to listen to the arguments against rising unemployment particularly among the young and the blacks without any recognition from those trade unionists who are loudest in their condemnation of unemployment at the bottom end of the scale that the unions themselves are the principal architects of a system of wage restriction which makes that unemployment worse.

HOW NOW MR NAKASONE?

Japan's election has vindicated Mr Nakasone in one respect: he did not want to go to the polls because he knew he would emerge weaker. The result has proved him right. He will probably remain Prime Minister but his Liberal Democratic Party has lost many seats and he himself has suffered a personal blow from coming second in his home district. He will have a much more difficult time in government from now on.

Perhaps he should have held on grimly until the parliamentary term came to its proper end in June, by which time the economy might have improved, but he was hemmed in by pressure for an early poll. The opposition was boycotting Parliament in protest against the refusal of Mr Tanaka, "godfather" of the Liberal Democrats, to resign after being found guilty of taking bribes from Lockheed while Prime Minister in the 1970s. Mr Tanaka himself wanted an election in the hope that it would vindicate him. Other factions among the Liberal Democrats also wanted one because they hoped to gain at the expense of Mr Nakasone's faction. So Mr Nakasone gave in, feeling that effective government had become impossible, which was true.

Ironically, Mr Tanaka, the cause of all the trouble, was returned by a landslide in his own district, but this does not mean that the election vindicated him or that his stand was a help to the Liberal Democratic Party, to which he used to belong. It seems to have been more the result of local loyalty and publicity than a reflection of national support. This interpretation is supported by the success of the "Clean Party", which increased its seats from 34 to 58. In addition many traditional supporters of the Liberal Democrats sat on their hands, indicating that they are also unhappy about the way their party has been behaving and tired of elections. Turnout was unusually low at 68 per cent.

The opposition probably made more gains from the vulnerability of the government on other issues. Superficially the economy looks in quite good shape. Industrial production is up; inflation has almost disappeared; there is a large trade surplus; unemployment is static at about 2.8 per cent and expected to fall. However, foreign countries, especially the United States, are putting up barriers, and domestic consumption has been slow to rise, which has aroused fears that the export-led recovery could fade away. There is a feeling that Mr Nakasone's government has had too little grip on economic affairs.

In foreign affairs Mr Nakasone's strong stand on defence may have cost him some votes. Certainly conclusions will be drawn by other politicians from the fact that his setback came so soon after receiving top level visits from the United States, China, West Germany and Canada. By putting Japan's international credibility on the line as an election issue when he knew he was likely to lose ground Mr Nakasone invited some dents in that credibility. The result will be a weaker and more cautious Japanese Government, more sensitive to opposition, more hamstrung by internal wrangles and less flexible in international negotiations, especially on trade. Mr Nakasone is not the only one who has lost.

Status of whales

From the Chairman of Greenpeace International

Sir, I refer to Woodrow Wyatt's review of *Whales: A Celebration*, edited by G. Gatenby (Books, December 8) in which he takes the opportunity to criticise the activities of Greenpeace to protect the great whales.

Would that his optimistic assessment of the status of whales worldwide was true! Unfortunately, he seems to draw his conclusions from sources unknown to those who for years have been closely involved in the scientific study of cetaceans.

There are no reliable population estimates for the "ten major species", nor is there any evidence, with the exception of one or two particular stocks, that the whales are making any kind of recovery from depletions, much less a "strong" one.

Sir Woodrow Wyatt's portrayal of the International Whaling Commission's record also suffers from inaccuracies. Under the jurisdiction of the commission we have seen population after population of whales, and even entire species such as the blue and humpback whales, hunted to near extinction.

Protection by the commission has often come only after the fact. In the case of the blue whale, for example, IWC did not provide protection until the fishery had collapsed totally.

We must again question Sir Woodrow Wyatt's knowledge of cetacean matters when he speaks of the "white Bowhead whale". There is no such thing; bowheads are black. The reviewer has undoubtedly confused the white whale (or beluga) hunt, which is not regulated by the IWC, with the Bowhead hunt.

The regulations of tuna fishing in North America to which Sir Woodrow Wyatt refers have been weakened by well-financed industry initiatives. Tuna fishermen are free to kill even fully protected species of dolphins since these are not counted against their quota. Last year they reported a kill of more than the 20,500 allowed by quotas.

Lastly, I would like to point out that Greenpeace actions have never been of any danger to anyone except Greenpeace members and then only when whalers fire harpoons over them.

Yours faithfully,
D. McTAGGART, Chairman,
Greenpeace International,
Temple House,
25-26 High Street,
Lewes,
East Sussex.
December 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Backing EEC with greater zest

From Mr Andrew Ross

Sir, As a concerned patriot I find myself thoroughly dismayed by the Government's continuing bluster over the price Britain should be expected to pay in order to remain a leading member of the European Economic Community.

I understand, of course, that our national spirit, along with our industrial base, has decayed alarmingly in recent years, but it is surely pretty desperate when we cannot, despite massive windfall revenues from North Sea oil, find a few hundred million pounds to stake our claim to a leading role in shaping the political future of Western Europe.

The continuing health of the EEC is no less important to British interests than the continuing health of Nato. If we have really lost faith in the EEC then we should, as a corollary, have doubts about the role of our forces in Germany. I suggest we back the EEC with more zest.

Yours,
ANDREW ROSS,
182 Old Woking Road,
Woking,
Surrey,
December 15.

From Mr Christopher Vajda

Sir, Whatever one may think of the purpose behind the European Parliament's decision to freeze the Community Budget rebate to Britain and Germany, one is treading on very dangerous ground in suggesting that, failing a solution by March, Britain should withhold part of its contribution to the Community Budget (as *The Times* leader of December 16 appears to be suggesting).

The legality of what the European Parliament has done can be tested before the European Court of Justice. It is, however, quite another matter unilaterally to withhold money that is lawfully due to the Community. There cannot be one law for her Majesty's Government and another law for the NGA.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER VAJDA,
Avenue de Tervueren, 27,
1040 Brussels,
Belgium.
December 16.

US and terrorists

From Mr Melvyn Westlake

Sir, It is surely quite remarkable how little condemnation has been expressed by Western leaders over the training, arming and bankrolling by the United States of terrorists intent on overturning the Sandinista government in Nicaragua. It is particularly surprising that the Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, has felt compelled to condemn such action, in the light of her known abhorrence of international terrorism.

No single act of foreign policy – not even the invasion of Grenada – has so manifestly undermined United States' claims to the moral high ground in international affairs and, by association, the claims of its allies.

With what credibility can President Reagan or Mrs Thatcher now revile the IRA, the PLO, The Red Brigades or any other terrorist group and their alleged backers, like Libya? Western policy in the international field has indeed sunk to a low level.

yours sincerely,
MELVYN WESTLAKE,
The Orchard,
Rhoda Road North,
Thundersley,
Essex.
December 8.

Sir Oswald and Jews

From the President of The Board of Deputies of British Jews

Sir, The allegation that Jewish attacks on Mosley were the cause of his antisemitism is like the suggestion that those who attack Satan are the cause of sin.

My father was member of Parliament for Whitechapel and St Georges from 1931 to 1935. He constantly warned of the immediate and eventual effects of fascism, whether in its British or German or any other form. Certainly British Jewry fought Mosleyite fascism from its inception and whether or not they themselves were the immediate target.

A National Front leader once tackled me: "Why don't you Jews leave us alone?" he asked. "If you did, we wouldn't have to be antisemitic. We're busy enough dealing with the blacks!"

Plus ça change . . .

Yours faithfully,
GREVILLE JANNER, President,
The Board of Deputies of British Jews,
Woburn House,
Upper Woburn Place, WC1.
December 15.

European elections

From Mr A. G. Mollett

Sir, The British electorate will be asked to vote on June 14 next year in the European Parliament elections. How many will actually exercise their right to determine who represents them in Strasbourg cannot be forecast, but I believe both the delay in setting the constituency boundaries and the continuation of the "first past the post" voting system for these elections will result in a derisory turnout.

The three boundary commissions – for England, Wales and Scotland – expect to publish their initial reports in mid-January for public reaction before submitting proposals to the Home Secretary by April. With the possibility of legal appeals there will continue to be uncertainty as to whether new boundaries will be fixed in time for the elections.

Political parties and voters will thus not know what the constituencies are until the actual election campaign, leaving little time for candidates to put across policies and to organise effective campaigns in the redrawn or maintained Euro-constituencies.

The delay in setting the boundaries is, however, a minor problem compared with the distorted results which will almost certainly result from the present Government's insistence on maintaining the "first past the post" electoral system in 78 out of the 81 seats allocated to Britain.

If June's general election vote were to be repeated in next year's European election it would provide the Conservatives with 55 seats, Labour 22 and the Alliance one. The Conservatives, with 42 per cent of the vote, would obtain 71 per cent of the seats, while the Alliance, with 26 per cent of the vote, would, on the most optimistic forecast, be left with one representative out of 78.

I suspect a great number of the electorate will decide in such circumstances that a so-called democratic election has no relevance to themselves.

The final irony is that the Northern Irish will be entitled to elect their three Euro-MPs by an electoral system, based on the single transferable vote, producing a fair result.

This system was introduced and agreed by Westminster to ensure that the political views of the minority population in Northern Ireland were represented; surely it is time that mainland Britain's electorate is also able to be fairly represented in its various political opinions.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY G. MOLLETT,
18 Lion Gate Gardens,
Richmond,
Surrey.
December 6.

Home front on the point of collapse?

From the Director of the Catholic Housing Aid Society

Sir, Charles McKean's frightening comments on housing policy (feature, December 15) raise the spectre of a nation "with a growing rate of mortgage failures, houses collapsing in the streets, and with people on waiting lists having no prospect of being rehoused in their lifetime".

Unfortunately, he is correct. The present emphasis on home ownership is no solution for the millions who lack the money to buy. Nor do present policies provide less well-off home owners with adequate help with repair costs.

Cuts in public investment in housing have hit improvement grants for owner-occupiers as well as council-housing building. As the article points out, the owner-occupied sector now includes the majority of unfit houses and those in need of major repair. A significant increase in public investment will be needed to halt the deterioration of our housing stock in both the public and private sectors.

At the root of the problem, however, is the fact that owners are given no assistance with routine repairs, so that minor problems build up into major ones. Mortgage tax relief is both a patently unfair subsidy and an inefficient one. It gives inadequate help to those home buyers who need it, and unnecessary help to those who do not. It should be scrapped and replaced with a system of housing allowances which directs help where it is most needed.

If the Government seriously intend to avert the bleak scenario Charles McKean depicts they must recognize that fundamental changes in housing finance are needed.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT KAHN, Director,
Catholic Housing Aid Society,
189a Old Brompton Road, SW5.

From the Secretary of the Housing Centre Trust

Sir, Charles McKean's article in today's *Times* (December 15), "Why the home front is heading for collapse", is a welcome addition to the evidence for action which the Housing Centre Trust has been advocating over recent years and set out in our publication, *Rescuing our Housing* (1981).

The Housing Centre feels that repairs to the deteriorating housing stock, pre and post-1919, rank among the most pressing problems facing the country today and that sooner or later it will have to be acknowledged that the Government must spend our money (taxes) on rescuing as many as possible of the homes at risk.

In the majority of cases the occupiers' own incomes and savings are totally inadequate to meet the costs of repairs/replacements made necessary by the passage of time or poor initial workmanship or both.

There is no ready precedent to guide us. We have never before had to face the wearing out of assets on such a scale as this legacy from the housebuilding bulges of the nineteeth century and the two post-war periods of the twentieth.

More detailed research is needed. New thinking is required. We hope that Mr McKean's warning will spark a productive public debate.

Yours,
MARJORIE S. CLEAVER,
Secretary, Housing Centre Trust,
33 Alfred place, WC1.

Reviving Ireland Act

From Miss Hannah Quinn

Sir, A grim reminder of the necessity for a new initiative in governmental policy towards Northern Ireland has been the assassination of Dr Edgar Graham in the grounds of Queen's University in Belfast. Last month (November 14) *The Times* published a letter from another member of the university, Professor Cornelius O'Leary, deploring the fact that a new initiative in Northern Ireland seemed low in governmental priorities.

Is it not possible to revive the proposals contained in the Government of Ireland Act of 1920, which is still on the statute book and which provided for two separate states of Ireland, one in the south and one in the north? Each would have its own governmental powers, but could also work together in an "All-Ireland Council" of Ireland to which both states would send representatives, with the further provision that the council could become an All-Ireland Parliament should the member states agree.

This Act was originally based on an Act giving home rule to the then Province of Ireland and was passed in 1914 and deferred, owing to the outbreak of World War I.

Lord O'Neill, one time Premier of Ireland, observed in his autobiography that only 25 per cent of this Act was put into effect by creating the Parliament of Stormont, which failed to give full civic rights to all Catholic citizens.

A determined effort by all Northern Ireland parties and Eire to be willing to participate in a revival of this Act with its inherent promise of *Irish* men working together for a common cause would lead to the peace and stability so desperately necessary in each state.

Yours faithfully,
HANNAH QUINN,
Crescent Cottage,
108 Marine Parade,
Brighton,
Sussex.
December 9.

Prosecution by stores

From Professor Sir Thomas Smith, QC, FRSE, FBA

Sir, I refer to the correspondence in your columns regarding prosecution of shoplifters by stores in England and in particular to the letters from Baroness Phillips (November 24) and from the Director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (December 8).

In Scots law private prosecution is virtually never used and would almost certainly not be permitted in cases of theft from stores. However, proprietors of stores and shops in Scotland have found that recourse to the civil courts provides a more effective remedy.

If they seek and are granted interdict ("injunction" in terms of English law) against persons who resort to shoplifting, this effectively bars such persons, under sanction of the civil law, from entering again premises protected by the interdict.

The remedy can be made available both against the deliberate shoplifter and the shoplifter in a state of confusion. There is no good reason why the proprietors of a store should be bound to admit to their premises (including any branch in the case of a chain store) persons who have shown themselves disposed to appropriate – whether deliberately or through confusion – goods without permission and who seem likely to continue such activity.

If proprietors of stores exchange information regarding such persons – especially organized groups of shoplifters – for the assistance of each other's security services, other stores at risk may eventually be in a position to seek the same remedy of interdict (or in England, injunction).

Perhaps such a solution would satisfy both Baroness Phillips and Ms Stern.

Civil action is, of course, also available to recover property unlawfully appropriated or its value.

Yours faithfully,
T. B. SMITH,
2 Scotland Street,
Edinburgh.
December 9.

Examination results

From Mr Max Morris

Sir, It would be a pity if the continuing argument around the validity of the Cox and Marks study strengthened the already widespread impression that the debate is about what kind of school system is best for Britain. It is about nothing of the sort. What is at issue is the superiority of one method or another of using statistics. In other words it is about statistical methodology, not education.

Examination results provide a limited amount of information about individual children in individual schools. Each child's results depend on a variety of complex circumstances and can only be usefully interpreted by those who know him. Each school is an institution peculiar to itself with its own educational lifestyle.

Examination results in bulk provide no basis whatever for comparison between one school and another let alone one school system and another. My objection to Cox and Marks, therefore, does not arise from their statistics, perfect or flawed (about which argument will, as precedent shows, continue until the Greek Kalends) but from the quite erroneous conclusions they and their friends draw from them.

Conclusions on whether the comprehensive is better than the selective system can only be soundly based on a study of the total service provided to the community by one or the other. Having worked as a headmaster in both systems I have no doubt that the better service, and by far, was provided by the comprehensive.

Yours etc,
MAX MORRIS,
(former Headmaster, Willesden High School),
44 Coolhurst Road, N8.
December 8.

Broken marriages and child ties

From Dr Mary Lund

Sir, I am writing in response to the Dean of Durham (December 6) who wanted information to confirm his intuition that two parents can contribute more than one to a child's development.

As he pointed out, there is indeed conflicting opinion and little fact about what benefits children when parents separate despite the numbers of children affected. However, two recently completed studies of children and divorce have begun to fill this gap in knowledge: one by Ann Mitchell at the Department of Social Administration, University of Edinburgh, and one by myself at the Child Care and Development Group, University of Cambridge.

Both studies showed children's wish to have a continuing relationship with both parents after marriages end. There is no one universal, deleterious effect on children of their parents' separation. Rather it is the way parents resolve matters concerning the children after they separate that may help or hurt them.

If parents do not form some way of communicating which allows access without tension, or if one parent disappears completely from a child's life, then a child may suffer. Social problems at school and reduced academic performance can result. But if parents put their differences aside so they can communicate about the issues they have in common concerning the children, the children will thrive.

Parental cooperation, whether or not in marriage, is the key to children's healthy development. Surely, conciliation services for parents who are separating should be promoted to safeguard the wellbeing of the one child in five who now finds he will not grow up with both natural parents at home.

Sincerely,
MARY LUND,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Paediatrics & Social and Political Sciences Committee,
Child Care and Development Group,
Free School Lane,
Cambridge.

Trident costs

From Mr Humphrey Buckler

Sir, The news on your front page on December 14 that the cost of Trident would be increased by £1,375m due to the fall in the sterling-dollar exchange rate is hardly surprising. What is surprising is that the article makes no reference to any measures by the Government to minimise the impact of changes in exchange rates.

Using your figures, sterling is now worth 60 per cent of its dollar value at the time the Trident deal was negotiated. Thus the British taxpayer will either get less defence for his money or funds will have to be found from other sources – eg, education, health, social welfare or rate support.

The rise in the value of sterling was the biggest commercial factor contributing to the Rolls-Royce crisis over RB211 contract. Rolls-Royce was bailed out by the Government and one would have hoped the lesson would have been learned.

A private exporter or importer having foreign exchange commitments will take every possible step to eliminate or reduce exchange risk. As taxpayers faced with this enormous bill we are entitled to know what steps the Government took to mitigate the exchange risk inherent in the Trident programme.

Yours faithfully,
HUMPHREY BUCKLER,
46 Blackheath Park, SE3.

School performance

From the General Secretary of the Secondary Heads Association

Sir, Your report of social trends in today's issue (December 9) shows very significant increases between 1970 and 1982 in the percentage of school pupils gaining O level passes, particularly in academically rigorous subjects, in numbers staying on to the sixth form, and in numbers going on to further and higher education.

The other significant increase during that time, of course, is in the percentage of those pupils attending comprehensive schools. Perhaps your columnists and leader writers could turn their attention to that.

Yours faithfully,
T. P. SNAPE, General Secretary,
The Secondary Heads Association,
29 Gordon Square, WC1.

Missing the bus

From Mr William Barrett

Sir, May I suggest that your piece on vanishing buses (December 9) is altogether too gloomy? I realize that the comment of the general manager of Eastern Counties buses is special pleading, but why does he dismiss private operators and community buses as a forlorn hope?

Both systems are working in this part of Suffolk, where the population is probably as small and as scattered as around Swanton Morley. Is it perhaps possible that we can offer advice to our northern neighbours?

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM BARRETT,
Pip's Peace,
Kenton,
Stowmarket,
Suffolk.
December 12.

Uneminent and trivial

From Mr Ben Weinreb

Sir, But Mr Kingsley Amis's minicab driver (December 17) might possibly prefer to chat to the uneminent Mr Philip Oakes. I know I would.

Yours faithfully,
BEN WEINREB,
16 Millfield Lane, N6.
December 17.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 19: The Prince and Princess of Wales this afternoon visited Westminster Hospital and St Thomas's Hospital.

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Major David Bromhead were in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President, Institute of Advanced Motorists, will launch BP Oil's "Young Driver of the Year" competition at BP House, Victoria, London, on January 17.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, Asthma Research Council, will attend a research committee meeting at Cardiothoracic Institute, Fulham Road, London, on January 19.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the exhibition, Arab Architecture: Past and present, at the Royal Institute of British Architects, London, on January 23.

Princess Alexandra will be present at the Kids 'n' Cops charity concert, in aid of the Townmead Youth Club, at Fulham Old Town Hall on February 10.

Margot Countess of Buckinghamshire wishes to thank all friends and relatives who sent kind and loving messages of sympathy at the time of her husband's death and wishes them a happy Christmas and New Year.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Francis Hedges will be held at the Church of St Mary-le-More, Wallingford, on Thursday, December 29, at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. H. Lines and Miss S. L. Baird
The engagement is announced between Mark Hendrey, son of Mr and Mrs Graeme Lines, of The Old Rectory, Winterborne Stickland, Dorset, and Sarah Louise, daughter of Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas and Lady Baird, of Craigrethill, Symington, Ayrshire.

Mr P. J. Riley and Mrs I. Chance
The engagement is announced between Philip, eldest son of Mr and Mrs William Riley, of Berriew, Powys, and Idonea, eldest daughter of the late Sir Hugh Chance and Lady Chance, of Chwilog, Gwynedd.

Captain N. A. D. F. Gordon-Creed and Miss M. E. Tuke
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Gordon-Creed, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Gordon-Creed, DSO, MC, of South Carolina, United States, and Mrs B. M. Jenks, of Farringdon, Hampshire, and Eva, only daughter of Sir Anthony and Lady Tuke, of Wherwell, Hampshire.

Mr J. M. C. Blackburne and Miss F. M. Frazer
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs W. E. Blackburne, of Barnsley, Yorkshire, and Fionna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs H. M. Frazer, of Largs, Ayrshire.

Dr E. T. Borrows and Miss J. P. Laird
The engagement is announced between Edward Borrows, of 6 Clarence Lodge, Middle Hill, Englefield Green, Surrey, and Jennie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W. H. Laird, of Heather Cottage, Gracehill, Ballymena, Northern Ireland.

Mr R. T. Wheater and Miss W. A. Borrows
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr M. Wheater, of Hongkong, and Mrs M. Wheater, of Patcham, Brighton, and Wendy, only daughter of Dr E. T. Borrows, of Clarence Lodge, Middle Hill, Engelfield Green.

Mr M. Boulding, RAF and Miss G. A. Green
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr J. F. Boulding and the late Mrs D. Boulding, of Newcastle upon Tyne, and Gillian Anne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. T. Green, of Wroxham Gardens, Potters Bar.

Mr J. Bridge and Miss G. Fyffe
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. E. Dean, of Mylor Bridge, Cornwall, and Georgina, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Fyffe, of St Ninians, Stirling.

Mr B. Elliott and Miss L. Burke
The engagement is announced between Bruce, eldest son of Mr and Mrs D. B. L. Elliott, of Southampton Row, London, WC1, and Louisa, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A Burke, of Barnes, London, SW13.

Mr R. J. Lohmeyer and Miss J. A. Hood
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs P. E. Lohmeyer, of Dartington, Devon, and Judith, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Hood, of High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R. J. McKendrick and Miss J. Cooke
The engagement is announced between Robert John, only son of Mr and Mrs R. G. McKendrick, of Southport, Lancashire, and Jacqueline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Cooke, of Beckenham, Kent.

Mr G. Napier and Miss A. C. L. Sheppard
The engagement is announced between George, son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Napier, of New York, and Arabella, daughter of Mr and Mrs Francis Sheppard, of Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr F. H. M. Reid and Miss M. L. Odgers
The engagement is announced between Francis, eldest son of Mr Malcolm Reid, of London, SW12, and the late Mrs Reid, and Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Graeme Odgers, of Eaton Constantine, Shropshire.

Mr P. E. C. Smith and Miss V. C. Markham
The engagement is announced between Peter Chiverall Smith, of Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire, and Viera Markham, of Midhurst, Sussex.

Mr H. Thomas and Miss J. R. Crowe
The engagement is announced between Hywell Thomas, of Englefield Green, and Joanna Crowe, of Thorpe, Surrey.

Mr R. D. Wills and Miss C. M. Lewis
The engagement is announced between Roger David, elder son of Mr and Mrs Arnold Wills, of Hale, Cheshire, and Catherine Martha, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Cecil Lewis, of Geneva, Switzerland.

Marriages

Colonel D. Beard and Mrs C. Bergman
The marriage took place at the Swedish Church, London, on December 9, between Colonel Dion Beard, son of the late Major-General and Mrs E. C. Beard, and Mrs Christina Bergman, daughter of Mr and Mrs Sven Haggqvist, of Soto Grande, Spain.

Dr C. B. McShane and Mrs V. M. Harrison
The marriage between Dr Brian McShane and Mrs Virginia Harrison took place on December 19 at Chelsea Register Office.

Mr R. F. Masters and Dr C. M. Scott-Moncrieff
The marriage of Mr Richard Masters and Dr Christina Scott-Moncrieff took place in Glastonbury on December 16.

Mr R. G. Pickering and Miss G. L. M. Whalley
The marriage took place in Henley-on-Thames on December 13 between Mr Roger Pickering, son of Mr and Mrs Harold Pickering, and Miss Giannina Whalley, daughter of Captain and Mrs John Whalley.

Mr M. Wright and Mrs S. Stewart
The marriage took place on Monday, December 19, followed by a service of blessing at Edensor Church, of Mr Michael Wright, of Park Ranger's House, Edensor, Bakewell, Derbyshire, and Mrs Susan Stewart (née Perry), of 42 Cranley Mews, London, SW7.

Baronetcy title claim 20 years late, heraldic court told

A courtroom battle involving Al Capone's former jockey and a retired British Army colonel, who are desputing who is the rightful heir to the title Dunbar of Mochrum, began in Edinburgh yesterday.

The scene was the court of the Lord Lyon King of Arms, who rules on matters of nobility in Scotland. The court met for only the third time this century.

The Lord Lyon, Mr Malcolm Innes of Edingight, wore his robes of office, a scarlet tunic, trimmed with gold braid. The present holder of the disputed title is French-born Sir Jean Ivor Dunbar, aged 65, of Long Island, New York.

Colonel William Dunbar, aged 90, of Herne Bay, Kent, is challenging him for the title.

The men are second cousins. Sir Jean inherited the title in 1977 on the death of his father, who was also Colonel Dunbar's cousin.

Colonel Dunbar says he was born to his father's second wife while the first wife was still alive.

His parents had "married" in



Lord Lyon King of Arms

1890 not knowing the first wife was still alive, and went through a second ceremony in 1912 having discovered she had not died until 1910.

Colonel Dunbar claims that under the Legitimacy Act, 1959, he was made legitimate. Although it was an English Act he said he should also be regarded as legitimate in Scotland.

He claims he succeeded to the baronetcy in 1959 through the Act and that right still remains. He claims he had not resigned his right to the baronetcy.

Sir Jean says Colonel Dunbar has been in a position to assert his legitimization and claim to the baronetcy since 1959, but has failed to do so. His claim was time barred, being 20 years late, he said.

Sir Jean's right to the title had been passed on to him by his father, he said.

Also in 1978 Colonel Dunbar said through his lawyers that he did not intend to take any action to assert the claim, Sir Jean said. He was as a result personally barred from proceeding with that claim.

Sir Crispin Agnew of Lochnan, an explorer, mountaineer and Unicorn Pursuivant at the court of the Lord Lyon, said facts in the case had been proved so further proof was not necessary.

He said Colonel Dunbar's legitimation in England had already been recognized by the Lyon court.

Mr Bruce Kerr, for Sir Jean, said facts had been accepted and the arguments would be based on the law. He said even if Colonel Dunbar was legitimate under English law, he was still barred from any claim on the title.

Mr Kerr claimed the present baronet has an "unassailable right" to the title. "When someone becomes legitimated, that is the time to look to see whether that has any effect on any succession to a title."

If it did have an effect you then had to look to see if someone else had an unchallengeable right to the title.

"If you find that is the case, that is an end of the whole matter. What you do not do is wait until the person in whom the title is vested dies and then start all over again which is what Colonel Dunbar is doing here."

He said it was clear Sir Adrian, Sir Jean's father, had an unchallengeable right to title when Colonel Dunbar became legitimate in England.

It was also clear that Sir Jean had an unchallengeable right to succeed Sir Adrian.

The hearing was adjourned until today.

Question time: The Prime Minister facing a different line of questioning yesterday when teenagers from 11 countries interviewed her at 10 Downing Street for the Thames Television programme, *CBTV*, to be broadcast today.

Sandhurst commissions

The following have been granted commissions and will join the regiments or corps shown against their names, having successfully completed the standard military course at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst:

J A Allan, 14/20H, Ampleforth C; H R Annal, RE, Maiden Erlegh Comp; P J Armstrong, REME, Welbeck C; P A Bailey, R Signals, Bassaleg Comp; A E Ball, RA, Embley Park; S N Barnett, Kings, Malvern C; C Belgum, RPC, Weston Favell Upper S; N G Bolton, RAOC, Welbeck C; R B Botton, RA, Kent C; P F Bowen, REME, Welbeck C; B Brealey, RA, St Olave's G; M B J Buckingham, RPC, Portsmouth Poly; J R Bulpitt, Queens, Canford; T R Burles, 13 18H, Abingdon; A W Burton, RAOC, Bemrose C; J Chappel, ACC, St Joseph's C; R M S Clements, R Hamps, Downside; M P de E Collin, RE, King's C; D L Constantine, 5 Innis DG, Harrow; D P Corrigan, R Irish, Portora Royal S; E N Coward, RCT, Lancing C.

C A Craig-Harvey, 5 Innis DG, Milton Abbey; D Crumlish, RHF, Port Glasgow; A K Cullen, R Irish, Prior Park C; I P Davis, Queens, Queen Elizabeth Mercian; C P Dawson, RAOC, Ramsey G; S Elise, REME, Welbeck C; S P Everett, QOH, Castle Hall; A S J Fay, RCT, Reading Blue Coat; D C E Field, D and D, Wellington C; T M J Fisher, RAOC, Pocklington; N S Foster, Staffords, The Royal Wolverhampton; K D Frowen, Staffords, Reading Blue Coat; J P C Gaze, Coldm Gds, Harrow; T A Gowans, RAOC, Ashby-de-la-Zouch; F J Greer, IG, Cranleigh; N J Griffiths, R Signals, King Edwards S; S R Haines, RAOC, Welbeck C; J A C Hanbury, Coldm Gds, Eton C; C C T Hansard, 16/5L, Downside; R J Herring, RAOC, Ridgeway; N E Hogarth, R Signals, Adam's G; A St J Holmes, Queens, Box Hill; W J Howard, R Anglian, King Edward VI; D J Hudson, RA, Ranelagh; D J Hunter, 4/7 DG, Kings C; D A C Ibbotson, 13/18H, Victoria C; S G Jenkins, RAOC, Ifield Comp.

W I M Jones, RCT, Arnold; M D Jones-Mathias, RE, Welbeck C; A R K Keith, AAC, Tonbridge; R K Knocker, RWF, St Peter's; D H Labouchere, QOH, Marlborough C; A J Lawson, D and D, Ivybridge; S R Leece, RAOC, Welbeck C; E W C R Mackay, REME, Welbeck C; E J D Martin, QRIH, Radley C; J D V Martin, RCT, Norwich King Edward VI; P D Martin, REME, Fair Water Comp; P Meldon, RAPC, Westville Boys HS; J L Melville, Scots DG, Glenalmond; B G G Merivale-Austin, RHG/D, Harrow; A Metcalfe, R Signals, Bradford G; R J Minter-Kemp, RWF, Ellesmere C; R J Mitchell, winner of the sword of honour, REME, Casterton Community C; G S Morgan-Grenville, Coldm GDS, Eton C; A W Morris, REME, Clevedon Comp; A D Neale, RA, Southend HS for Boys; M T O'Brien, RA, Hornchurch G; P J Oliver, ACC, Northwood; C S St J Owen, RHG/D, Eton C; N B Parker, REME, Welbeck C.

J P H Payne, Kings, Felsted; R G Payne, 16/5L, Radley C; K A Pope, KOSB, Churchill HS; A T Powell, REME, Whiston Highside; J L Prichard, RE, Shrewsbury; C S Salisbury, REME, Helsby HS; P H Shakespeare, RA, Pierrepoint; J J Sheldon, 15/19H, Bradford C; R M Simpson, Kings, Royal Hospital S; M J Smith, DERR, Westwood St Thomas; R D Smith, REME, Welbeck C; R M Sowden, RCT, King Edward VI; C D Stisted, SG, Fettes C; J M B Sutcliffe, RH, Uppingham; K E Terray, D and D, Newington C; C L Tickell, RE, Wellington C; J C G Wallington, 17/21L, The Oratory; C R F Ward-Thomas, RHG/D, Worth; R N Winterton, 14/20H, Rugby; D G R Wood, R Signals, Forest G.

Birthdays today

Miss Jenny Agutter, 31; Mr Paul Brickhill, 67; Sir George Coldstream, QC, 76; Mr Charles Denton, 46; Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, 57; Sir John Lang, 87; Sir Clifford Namnton Morgan, 82; Mr W. J. O'Reilly, 78; Viscount Sandon, 61; Miss Rachel Trickett, 60; Sir Dick White, 77; Mr John Whitney, 53.

Harrow School

Winter Term at Harrow ended on December 14. MR R. G. Collins has leave of absence for next term. The Cock House Match was drawn between Bradbys (Mr A. W.D. Sankey) and West Acre (Mr D. J. Parry).

The Torpid Final was won by Druries (Sir Alan Outram) who beat The Knoll (Mr S. L. Parsonson) Next term begins on Thursday, January 12.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Brigadier A. F. Mutch to be Honorary Colonel Commandant Royal Pioneer Corps from November 3.
Brigadier D. M. Roberts to be Director of Army Medicine and Consulting Physician to the Army in February and to be promoted to the rank of Major-General in April.

The following to be Deputy Lieutenants of Suffolk:
Colonel J. P. Davey, The D. H. Erskine, Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. C. Probert, and Captain C. B. H. Wake-Walker, RN.

Altar appeal

A £5,000 appeal for an altar at Peterborough Cathedral in memory of Dr Robert Stopford, formerly Bishop of Peterborough and, later, of London, is to be launched by the Dean of Peterborough. Dr Stopford died in 1976.

Middle Temple

Lord Justice Ackner has been elected treasurer of the Middle Temple and Mr John Mills, QC, deputy treasurer.

£2.1m for research

The British Heart Foundation's research funds committee has awarded a further 21 grants totalling £468,822 for research, bringing the total for the year to £2.1m.

Knighthood for judge

A knighthood has been conferred on Mr Justice Scott on his appointment as a Justice of the High Court of Justice.

Luncheon

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a luncheon yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of Mr John Sparrow. The other guests were:
Mr Nigel Lawson, MP, Mr G W Mackworth Young, Mr Ronald Dearing, Mr Norman Payne, Mr Christopher Reeves, Mr Graham MacKenzie, Mr John Stuttard, Sir Robert Armstrong, Sir Kenneth Stowe, Sir Clive Whitmore, Dr Robin Nicholson and Mr Robin Butler.

Reception

Westminster Christmas Appeal Trust
Prince and Princess Michael of Kent were present at a reception and preview of the Christmas exhibition last night at Sotheby's Bond Street Galleries given by the Westminster Christmas Appeal Trust. They were received by the Chairman of the Organizing Committee and Mrs Philip Gay, Mr and Mrs Julian Thompson; Mr and Mrs Peter Wilson, and Mrs Tessa Kilgour, chairman of the reception committee. The Lord Mayor of Westminster attended. Others present included:
The President of the Westminster Christmas Appeal and Lady Harlech, the Bishop of Fulham, the Secretary of State for the Environment and Mrs Patrick Jenkin, the Minister of Housing and Construction, the President of the British Property Federation and Mrs Dennis Marler, the President of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers and Mrs Brian Grainger, the Chairman of the 1985 Appeal Committee and Mrs Christopher Benson, the Treasurer of the Westminster Christmas Appeal and the Hon Lady Roche, the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, Sir Hugh and Lady Cubitt, Sir Rustam and Lady Feroze, Sir Michael and Lady Hordern, Sir William and Lady Shapland, Sir Donald and Lady Tebbit, Mr and Mrs Anthony Andrews.
Mr and Mrs Andrew Cruickshank, Miss Joanna David, Mr and Mrs Martin Jarvis, Mr and Mrs Patrick Lunt, Miss Anna Massey, Mr and Mrs Anthony Quayle, Miss Soline Scott, Mr and Mrs John Timpson, Mr and Mrs Robin Adam, Mr and Mrs Denis Allport, the Rev William Maynard Atkins, Mr and Mrs Harry Axton, Mr and Mrs Brian Cann, Mr and Mrs Clifford Chetwood, Mr and Mrs Clive Fleet, Mr Julian Glasgow, Mr and Mrs Stanley Grinstead, Mr and Mrs Edward Guinness, Mr and Mrs Jimmy James, Mr and Mrs Nigel Linstead, Mr and Mrs John Osborne, Major Michael Parker, Mr Gerald Powell, Mr and Mrs John Quinton, Mr John Ritblat, Mr and Mrs Anthony Royle, Mr and Mrs David Shankland, Mr Robert Spooner, Mr and Mrs John Sunley, Mr and Mrs E J Symons, Mr and Mrs Paul Wates and Mr and Mrs Horace Wilkinson.

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker and Mrs Bernard Weatherill held a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday evening in honour of the Mayor and Freemen of Croydon. Those present were:
The Mayor of Croydon and Mr K Campbell, the Bishop of Croydon and Mrs Snell, the Town Clerk and Mrs Birch, Mr and Mrs A Blakemore, Councillor P Bowness, Mr and Mrs F Cole, Mrs J Cook, Mrs A Dunn, Mrs B Fiducia, Canon and Mrs C Hill, Councillor and Mrs T Laffin, Mr and Mrs A Lovell, and Deputy Mayor of Croydon and Mrs Macdonald, Colonel D McLelland, Councillors Mr and Mrs P Saunders, Mrs A Stevens, Dr M Taylor, Miss P Vessey, Mr and Mrs C Walker, Mr and Mrs B R Weatherill, Mr and Mrs H B Weatherill and Mr D Weightman.

National Sporting Club
The National Sporting Club held a boxing dinner last night when the Combined Services Boxing Association entertained members of the United States Marine Corps. Admiral Sir Peter Herbert was in the Chair and Mr Kenneth Wolstenholme, Secretary of the National Sporting Club, also spoke.

Service dinner

Combined Cadet Force
The Combined Cadet Force held its annual officers' dinner last night at the Imperial Hotel. The principal guest was Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Burgess Commander UK Field Army. The Chairman was Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. Pryke, CCF Contingent Commander of St Alban's School. Among those present were:
General Sir Hugh Beach, Rear Admiral J P Barker, Major-General R E J Gerrard-Wright, Air Vice-Marshal J D Spottiswood, Major-General M S Hancock, Air Vice-Marshal G C Lamb and Major-General P C Shapland.

Memorial services

Mr H. Gorell Barnes
A service of thanksgiving or the life of Mr Henry Gorell Barnes was held on Thursday, December 15 at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall. The Rev Basil Watson officiated and prayers were led by Canon Perceval Hayman. The lessons and the readings were given by Mr Michael Butt, Mr Norman Fowler, MP, and Mrs Susannah Best. Mr Christopher Reeves, Chief Executive of Morgan Grenfell, gave an address. The St Lawrence Jewry Singers, accompanied by Mr John Scott, also took part. Among others present were:
Mr Gorell Barnes (widow), Sir William and Lady Gorell Barnes (parents), Mr and Mrs Arnott, Mrs Vicky Wilkinson, Mr and Mrs Hearn, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Eagles, Mr Bryce Cottrell, Miss Helen Blackman, Mrs Susan Burton, Mrs Trustram Eve, Mr and Mrs Charles Pike, Miss Marie Moschanas, Mr and Mrs John Montagu, Mrs N Fowler, Mr Alistair Best, Mr and Mrs Julian Agnew, Alison Winter.

Lord and Lady Catto, Mr G W and Lady Eve Mackworth-Young, Mrs Reeves, and many friends and colleagues from Morgan Grenfell: Mr D W Allen, Mr N F Althaus, the Hon N Assheton, Mr C M Beddow, Lady Bernard, Ms Gemma Best, Mr E F Bigland, Sir Robin and Lady Brook, Ms Diana Butt, Dr and Mrs Byng-Hall (representing The Institute of Family Therapy), Mr W Byrnes.

Mr C Boyle, Mr and Mrs W A Camps, Mr J Chiene, Viscount Churchill, Mr T G L Coghlan, Mr L H P Connor, Dr A Copisarow, Mr J Dundas Hamilton, Mr W P Dwerryhouse, Sir Sidney and Lady Eburne, Mr R F Erith.

Mr R D Fulford, Mr A D A W Forbes, Mr R Fawcett, Mrs T Fenwick, Mr Patrick Gilbert (representing the SPCK), Sir Nicholas Goodison, Mr and Mrs C Gray, Mr P Green, Mr and Mrs H M I Haddon-Grant, Mr Peter Hall, Mr T Heazel, Mr C Heroys, Mr P D Hill-Wood, Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, Mr R Hutton, Mrs Peter Jenks, Mr P A Lawson, Mr D Lloyd, Mr N McAndrew, Mr C McQueen, Mr C S McVeigh, Mr A W Mallinson, Mr C Melluish, Mr R Moore-Ede, Mr G C Mordaunt, Lord O'Brien of Lothbury.

Mr D V Palmer, Mr J Pawle, Mr and Mrs G T Pepper, Mr R Power, Mr M J Prag, Mr R N Quartano, Lord and Lady Rennell, Mr C M Rope, Mr J W Robertson, Lady Roskill, Mr A R D Rutherford, Mr D G Scholey, Mr A D Steen, MP, Mr R A Stormonth-Darling, Mr D R Strauss, Mr P T Thistlethwayte, Mr S J Titcomb, Mr J J Tobin, Mr H N Verey, Mr F Vinton, Lord Wakehurst, Mr J Whitley and Mr A S Woodhams.

Mr F. C. D. Parkinson
A memorial service for Mr Frederick Parkinson was held yesterday at St Clement Danes, Strand. The Reverend R. C. Hubble officiated and Mr Ian Parkinson and Mr Malcolm Parkinson (sons) read the lessons. Mr John Frank gave the address.

Latest wills

Mr Philip Zee, of Primrose Hill, London, formerly for more than 20 years political cartoonist of the *Daily Mirror*, left estate valued at £63,026 net.

Mr Sebastian Earl, of Brompton, London, a former managing director of Selfridge's, and a distinguished oarsman, left estate valued at £167,593 net

Mr Francis Howard Steele, of Winchester, Hampshire, who was managing director of Sony Broadcast, left £68,389 gross, £65,561 net.

Mr Steele, who died in October, was a former director of engineering for the Independent Broadcasting Authority and won a Montreux citation and the Royal Television Society's gold medal for his work on television systems.

Sir David Edward O'Brien, 6th Baronet, of Drogheda, co Meath, left estate in England, Wales and the Irish Republic valued at £79,791.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Davis, Mr Michael, of Twineham, West Sussex, intestate £241,797
Simpson, Mr Charles Collin, of Poole, Dorset, intestate £342,325
Hands, Mr Frank Reginald, bank official of Ferndown, Dorset £220,350
Allen, Mrs Mary Nellie, of Hampton-in-Arden, West Midlands £402,577.
Barnes, Mr George Edward William, of Maddington, Shrewton, Wiltshire £408,384
Erskine, Mrs Jean Violet, of Felsham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk £887,249
Jones, Mr Thomas Price, of Chiswick, London, dairyman £424,249
Lowe, Lady, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire £376,392
Ludlow, Mr George Rex, of Weymouth, Dorset £396,035
Roth, Mr Louis, of Poole, Dorset £399,806
Pamphilon, Mr Bryan Alger, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire £347,482
Pritchard, Mrs Jeannie, of Hendon, London £356,394
Ramsay, Mrs Winifred Mary, of St Albans, Hertfordshire......... £238,223
Thorpe, Mr Herbert Edward, of Rye, East Sussex £218,839
Webster, Mrs Rhona, of Leyburn, North Yorkshire.................. £226,510
Wright, Mr Herbert Ezra, farmer, of Wrangle, Lincolnshire........ £365,327

Church news

Appointments
The Rev B Fitzharris, Assistant Chaplain of Archbishop Tenison's Grammar School, Kennington, diocese of Southwark, to be Rector of Radwinter with Hempstead, diocese of Chelmsford.

The Rev A F Popplewell, assistant curate of St Chad, Lichfield, diocese of Lichfield, to be Vicar of St Mary, Laisterdyke, diocese of Bradford.

The Rev G D Redpath, vicar of Stratfield Mortimer, diocese of Oxford, to be also priest-in-charge of Mortimer West End and Padworth.

The Rev C S Rushforth, vicar of Friskney, diocese of Lincoln: to be assistant priest of The Holy Spirit, Leicester, diocese of Leicester.

The Rev B A Saunders, team vicar of Holy Trinity with St Columba, Fareham, diocese of Portsmouth: to be team rector of Mortlake with East Sheen, diocese of Southwark.

The Rev C L Smith, curate of Cheshunt, diocese of St Albans: to be vicar St Peter, Watford, in the same diocese.

Resignations and Retirements
The Rev G R Connock, rector of Great and Little Sampford, diocese of Chelmsford, to resign and retire on December 13, 1984 (sic)

The Rev O B Eaton, rector of Alphington, diocese of Exeter, to resign in February 1984 to take up a chaplaincy at St George's, Barcelona, diocese of Europe.

The Rev P C E Ellis, Vicar of Thaxted, diocese of Chelmsford, to resign and retire on April 2

The Rev T P Hearn, vicar of St John Baptist, France Lynch, diocese of Gloucester, to resign on December 31.

The Rev C B Williams, Vicar of Horton, diocese of Lichfield, to retire on December 31.

Science report

Southern Fish yields star secret

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Astronomers analysing observations from the Infra-Red Astronomy Satellite (IRAS) have discovered a second star surrounded by cool solid material that could be a planetary system in the process of formation.

The discovery earlier this year of a "shell" of dust and rocks orbiting the star Vega excited astronomers because it was the first direct evidence of solid objects around a star other than our Sun. It was widely interpreted as material in the process of coalescing into a group of planets like the solar system.

Yesterday's announcement that solid material also orbits around the star Fomalhaut is extremely important because it shows that the Vegan system is *not* unique.

It will encourage those astronomers who believe that stars with planets may be the rule rather than the exception. More planets imply a greater chance that intelligent life has arisen elsewhere in the Universe.

Fomalhaut is 22 light-years from Earth and is the brightest star in the constellation known as the Southern Fish. It is about 12 times more luminous than the Sun but cooler and less bright than Vega.

IRAS, a joint project of Britain, the United States and The Netherlands, stopped operating last month. But astronomers will spend years analysing and evaluating the vast volume of observations that it sent back to Earth during its 300 days in orbit. There could be other important discoveries in store.

OBITUARY

BRIGADIER HUGH RICHARDS

Defender of Kohima

Brigadier Hugh Richards, CBE, DSO, who commanded the garrison which held Kohima against the Japanese in the Spring of 1944, died on December 16 in Malta where he was living in retirement. He was 89. Together with their failure to capture Imphal, their repulse at Kohima marked the beginning of the ebb in Japanese fortunes in the Burmese theatre.

And though itself numbering only 1,500 men, the garrison at Kohima made a considerable contribution to the Japanese defeat in tying up and blunting the efforts of a complete division for a fortnight.

Hugh Upton Richards, who was born in 1894, had served in France during the Second World War with the Worcester Regiment. Between the wars he commanded the Royal West African Frontier Force, commanding the 4th Bn Nigeria Regiment in 1933-34 and the Sierra Leone Battalion in 1939. He was also involved in the Palestine campaigns of 1936 and 1938.

From 1940 to 1944 he commanded the 3 (West African) Infantry Brigade being appointed CBE in 1943. It was as a colonel with a formdable reputation as a soldier that he was selected to go to Kohima in March 1944.

The Japanese assault on Kohima was part of the plan to break through the Assamese mountains and possibly advance into the heart of India. Perceiving the nature of the Japanese threat, Lieutenant-General Scoones, the 4th Corps commander had ordered Richards to Kohima with orders to hold it at all costs on March 22. On April 4 the Japanese 31st Division invested the garrison and the battle began in earnest.

Though the position, a pass at over 4,000 ft in wild and almost uncharted country, was an ideal defensive one, the Japanese were in overwhelming strength numerically, and were better served by artillery. Furthermore the high mountains surrounding Kohima made it difficult to fly in supplies to the defenders, which became necessary to their survival as the battle raged on.

By April 5 the garrison's contact with its main water supply had been cut by the enemy and on the 7th Richards ordered limited withdrawals from one of his hilltop positions. Some of the most desperate fighting even of a campaign noted for its desperate encounters, now took place, with fierce attacks and counter attacks across the tennis court of the picturesque Kohima Club which had itself already been demolished by Japanese artillery fire. By April 11 the garrison was suffering acute privation from shortage of water and the prospects for casualties were rendered the more miserable when the dressing station was wrecked by shellfire on the 8th.

Ammunition, too, ran short and the defensive advantage of the position proved a severe handicap to aircraft attempting to fly in supplies. Overtopped as it was by higher mountains, Kohima taxed to the limits the resources of relieving pilots who had to make a series of extremely sharp turns and steep descents to get to their dropping point. An error of only a few hundred yards meant that the Japanese became the recipients of supplies intended for the garrison, which all too frequently happened during the siege.

By the 18th Richards whose own deportment had been an outstanding example to his troops, prepared his garrison to make its last stand. However within two days more a brigade of the 2nd Division had broken through the Japanese lines and Richards and his troops, now at the extremities of exhaustion had their ordeal terminated. Further relieving forces now threatened the rear of the 31st division and the Japanese were driven off.

For his conduct of this decisive battle Richards was awarded the DSO. He retired from the Army in 1947.

MR DONALD HOPEWELL

Mr Donald Hopewell, who died on December 15 at the age of 92, was president of the Brontë Society from 1932 to 1974, and an authority on the Brontë family and its circle. He was also a member of the council of St Dunstans, and of the committee of the National Institute for the Blind, and throughout his life a generous supporter of and worker for various blind institutions.

Donald Gardner Hopewell was the son of a Nottingham business man and for many years was chairman and managing director of the family firm of manufacturers, G. Hopewell and Son. He was educated at Oundle and at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1913. He was never very strong, and the effects of illness and injury during First World War were always more of less with him.

It was no doubt for these reasons that, shortly after being admitted a solicitor in July, 1917, he retired to the country and became a member of the old Northern firm of Messrs Pearson and Pearson, of Kirkby Lonsdale, in Westmorland. Already interested in English literature, especially the novel, he had joined the Brontë Society some years before.

There were times when, steeped as he was in Brontë lore, he occupied himself in these studies to the exclusion of almost everything else. He both wrote and spoke a great deal about the lives and work of the three sisters especially, and always warmly defended all the family against any theory that he believed to do them less than justice.

During his time as president of the Brontë Society efforts were made to extend the facilities available to researchers, by making manuscripts and other memorabilia more readily available for study. The parsonage at Haworth and its rooms were also restored to the appearance they had in the Brontës' day. Hopewell was awarded an honorary doctorate by Leeds University in 1969 for his services to literature.

Apart from that, he was chiefly concerned with his work for the blind. He himself had poor sight for most of his life, and it grew worse with the years. He was unmarried.

CDR J. E. G. McKEE

Commander J. E. G. McKee, OBE, RN (retd), died suddenly at his home in Plymouth on December 2. Educated at Clifton College and the Royal Naval Engineering College at Keyham, Eric McKee served in the Royal Navy from 1939 to 1971 and during the war saw action in the Mediterranean and the Far East.

On his retirement from the Navy, when he was appointed OBE, he turned to the serious study of wooden boats, a lifelong interest which he had furthered by making himself a highly competent boat-builder during his spare time as a serving officer. This study led to his becoming a consultant to the National Maritime Museum in 1970, which awarded him a Caird Fellowship from 1973 to 1978.

From this research came the definitive work on the subject, *Working Boats of Britain*, published earlier this year, an outstanding contribution to the record of our maritime history. He was also a prominent member of the Society for Nautical Research for many years, contributing a number of articles to its journal, the *Mariners Mirror*. All who knew him were aware of his unfailing generosity with his wide knowledge.

A keen and always meticulously prepared sailor, McKee was well known as a member of the Royal Western Yacht Club and as a yacht measurer for the Royal Ocean Racing Club. He was charming and most gentle man invariably relaxed in manner no matter what the pressure, and had a rare wit with a devastating way of pricking the bubbles of cant and pomposity.

He is survived by his wife Betty, and two sons and two daughters.

LT-COL LYNDALL URWICK

H. Imrie Swainston writes:

May I add to your appreciation of the outstanding contribution to education for management made by the late Lieutenant Colonel Lyndall Urwick?

In the late 1920s, he was already vigorously proclaiming the need for a staff college for industry on the lines of the existing staff colleges of the fighting services.

His efforts were unremitting. In April 1942 four members of the Milward group offered to help him in a campaign to further his ideas for such a college with sufficient money and students to give the project a fair chance of success. The five members of the group met every fortnight for three years as war raged.

With added men of distinction, not least Geoffrey Heyworth as the chairman of the Board of Governors, the Administrative Staff College was opened by Mr Attlee the Prime Minister on the 16th April 1948, which in its turn proved to be the inspiration of many further Colleges in Great Britain and the Commonwealth.

It is not too much to say that the crusading spirit of Lyn Urwick over sixty years played a great part in this far reaching development, insufficiently recognised officially, but well perceived by those who knew him.

Major-General Robert Charles Moss King, CB, DSO, OBE, who died on December 16, served in the Far East in the Second World War, and was GOC Home Counties District and 44th Infantry Division (TA) from 1953 to 1956. His last post was Director of Quartering at the War Office. He was 79.

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Galleries

Light deceptive mastery

Walter Osborne
National Gallery of Ireland

Islamic Bookbindings/ Richard Doyle and his Family
Victoria and Albert

Islamic Art and Design
British Museum

Walter Osborne is not exactly a name to conjure with, even in Ireland, his native land. Or he has not been for upwards of 80 years, since his death in 1903, but the splendid show of his work at the National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin until December 31 (and then the Ulster Museum of Art in Belfast from January 20 to February 28) is bound to change his standing radically.

Osborne's complete eclipse is curious in many ways. He died young, at the age of 43, but he was not exactly unknown or even a very isolated figure. His formation as an artist was as international as that of any of his English contemporaries, such as Clausen, and he went through the same sort of evolution. Something of a juvenile prodigy, he won just about every prize in sight before leaving Dublin to train at the Antwerp Academy in its days of maximum influence, when he made contact with painters of the Hague School and a number of young English painters who were soon to be important. He was painting in Brittany, around Pont Aven, in 1883, along with a host of other painters, and there came under the influence, then almost unavoidable, of Bastien-Lepage in his studies of peasant life and his technique of painting them. He then lived and worked in England until 1892, and built his career very carefully, showing regularly at the Royal Academy, becoming early an associate of the Royal Hibernian Academy, and being in at the beginning of the New English Art Club.

Thus by the time he returned definitively to Dublin he was well established, and continued to keep up his English and foreign connexions. During his last few years he took up portrait painting, and became beyond doubt Ireland's leading portrait painter (it was generally supposed that Dublin could support only one at a time). The year before his death he was offered a knighthood, but refused. After his death his painting *An October Morning* was bought as a memorial for the Guildhall Gallery by a group of painter friends and admirers which sounds like a who's-who of young British art at that time. And then, virtually nothing. When Pyms Gallery in London turned up three lovely Osbornes for their *Irish Revival* show last year, few visitors can even have known who he was.

But he was very definitely somebody. Seeing a lot of his work together, one can pick out a number of personal traits which distinguish him from the many others who underwent the same influences at the same time. He soon tired, evidently, of the constraints of the chill, Bastien-Lepage range of colours, and bursts into a richness which owes little or nothing to the Impressionists. He particularly loves to construct a picture with the foreground shadowy and the background brilliantly illuminated by the rays of the setting (or occasionally rising) sun, and he has an extraordinary mastery of the shifting, deceptive light of an English or Irish landscape. Some of his portraits, particularly of women and children, are excellent, though there is some evidence that they were undertaken more from economic necessity than from free choice. It is only right and proper that the revival of interest in this whole generation should finally restore his work to the fame it deserves. Today Dublin, tomorrow the world.

In London, as I was remarking last week, most commercial galleries have settled down nicely to their Christmas shows, and it is left to the public galleries to be launching important exhibitions as near to Christmas as this – with the intention, of course, that they shall run happily on over the holiday and into the New Year. Bearing this in mind, the two major shows devoted to aspects of Islamic art do not seem quite so determinedly unseasonable. At the Victoia and Albert Museum there is an extraordinary display of **Islamic Bookbindings** (until March 4) and at the British Museum is a more general show of **Islamic Art and Design 1500-1700** (until February 19).

Both shows are the kind of in-house activity that the museums do so well, offering a valuable opportunitiy to see some of the less familiar possessions, and occasionally some of the more familiar, illuminated by being placed in a new context. The untold riches of the major London museums constantly amaze, and seldom more so than in the Victoria and Albert's bookbinding show, which actually puts everything the museum has in that line on display, to coincide with a lavishly produced *catalogue raisonné* of the collection by Duncan Haldane, even at £30 heavily subsidized by that admirable organization the World of Islam Festival Trust.

It is, in a sense, a didactic show, in that it sets out to tell us a great deal about the evolution of bookbinding in the main Islamic centres, particularly Persia, Turkey and India. We learn how it was done, with what tools, in what materials. Everything is there with a purpose, and some of the bindings, or fragments of bindings, shown are more interesting than beautiful. But, for anyone whose historical interests are minimal, there is ample compensation in the sheer physical appeal of many of the exhibits: the exquisite marblings, the delicacy of the tooled patterns, the subtle and sometimes rich colouring of the later pictorial examples, elaborately lacquered, from Persia and Kashmir.

The heart of the British Museum show is a stunning collection of objects from the museum itself and the British Library, though there are loans also from the Victoria and Albert and the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin, as well as private sources. Again, there is a ghost of didactic intent, since the exhibition sets out to show us just how the Islamic world hung together, how the three great empires, Ottoman, Safavid and Mughal, interracted and influenced one another, and what they all made of influences from outside, east and west. Some of the most intriguing exhibits, in fact, are the ceramics repaired, restored or imitated from Chinese originals, and the miniatures, mainly of Christian subjects, derived from a variety of European sources already admired by Islamic artists and patrons. Again, many of the objects on show are of breathtaking beauty, but, for all the gasps of wonderment, one does come away appreciating a lot more clearly just how, where and why all these wonders came about.



Osborne's affecting view of the child in *Feeding Chickens*

While at the Victoria and Albert, it will be well worth your while to walk through the newly assembled and arranged galleries devoted to *British Art and Design 1900-1960*: you will have plenty of time to do so, since this is a permanent display, and a source of amazement at the ingenuity of the museum's designers cramming a quart, if not a gallon, into a pint pot without creating too much confusion. But, if you are looking for truly sesonable fare, the thing to do is to make your way to the Henry Cole Wing, where there is a wholly delightful exhibition devoted to **Richard Doyle and his Family** (until February 26).

No artist, not even I think Arthur Rackham, has been so completely at home with fairies, elves, sprites and all their kith and kin. Though Dicky Doyle himself did many other things – political cartoons, comic books about the adventures of three accident-prone bachelors abroad and so on – his happy and unquestioning knowledge of fairlyland has been what most recommends him to posterity. And, if you think it is easy to define and make convincing the proportions of a fairy queen or a malignant troll, look carefully at these unquestionably accurate records and think again. It also emerges that Dicky was just one of a whole clan of fairy-fanciers, including (though not ending with) his nephew Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, whose strange credulity about the notorious Cottingley fairy photographs makes an odd footnote to the show. Clearly, as long as there are Doyles about, Tinkerbell will never die.

John Russell Taylor

Television

A real mystery

A Talent for Murder (BBC2) was clearly designed as a "vehicle" for Laurence Olivier and Angela Lansbury, although they could hardly have expected that they would be forced to get out and push it. It was an effort for everyone concerned, but especially for those of us who watched until the end: it was a "mystery" story, although the only real mystery was why it was televised in the first place.

Angela Lansbury was not so much made-up as embalmed – but since she was playing the part of a lady thriller-writer, the contemporary equivalent of the Wise Virgin, that was perhaps just as well. Lord Olivier had decided to use his high, quavering voice and on the many occasions when he exclaimed "My daaaarling" he sounded as if he were standing at the Wailing Wall. Sometimes actors seem to believe that they can rise above a bad or nonsensical play by being grand or excessively theatrical – it is called being an "old trooper" – but this ploy does not work on television, where even the most talented performers can be reduced to the sum of their mannerisms.

Last night's drama was announced as a "co-production", which generally means that it is being directed primarily at an American audience but can be offered to the English during Christmas week, when we get into the habit of watching anything. It was not so much a "whodunnit" as "could it please be done as soon as possible?" Evil daughters-in-law and saturnine servants kept on walking up to each other and saying "Why? Why? It's all so senseless!" on a set that resembled the circulating library at Harrods – although this drama's only connexion with literature was the line "There's a touch of Lady Macbeth in you". The guilty party was evident from the start: whoever at the BBC believed that this farrago of stale clichés could be made at all.

Peter Ackroyd

Rock

Optimistic finale

Simple Minds
Lyceum

Despite their long period of recording inactivity Glasgow's Simple Minds have ended their year with a flourish, a string of sold-out houses and the current hit single "Waterfront" paying tribute to the loyalty of a committed audience while also confirming the band's status as Scotland's leading group.

They began their first London show with a studied version of "Waterfront", an impressive statement of the band's confidence as a live force. Both this and the other new song, "Speed Your Love To Me", are indications of the Minds' mature handling of their material. They have arrived at a sound which manages to be portentious without being pretentious, one that has graduated away from its initial post-Roxy Music influence safely intact.

The centrepiece of Simple Minds' atmospheric approach is the graceful presence and cultured vocal contributions of the frontman, Jim Kerr. His feline dancing and clear range automatically draw the listener into a carefuly constructed web of emotional textures that move from the stirring "Glittering Prize" and "Up On the Catwalk" to the more introspective pieces like "King is White and in the Crowd".

Behind Kerr, Simple Minds display a rich array of instrumental colour. The synths and electric keyboards of Michael MacNeil are probably the band's secret weapon and the key to their sound. He manages to infuse a constant stream of warm textures that allow the music to develop a sense of space.

It is the dynamics and pacing of Minds at their best which lend them a peciliar intensity. Although the guitarist Charles Burchill relies on effects to state the melodies he never resorts to rock clichés.

The high point of the evening was undoubtedly a cathartic version of "New Gold Dream" that meandered into a celebratory vamp of Al Green's "Take Me to the River". It was an optimistic finale to a highly satisfactory and stimulating night from Kerr and company.

Max Bell

Opera in America

The first ladies

The second half of the autumn season in San Francisco was distinguished by a parade of prima donnas, which included some notable "firsts": Marilyn Horne's first Dalila and Mirella Freni's first (Puccini) Manon; plus Montserrat Caballé's first American Gioconda, Katia Ricciarelli's first American Violetta, and Régine Crespin's first Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein on these shores.

The unquestioned prize was *Manon Lescaut*, conducted with passionate conviction by Maurizio Arena. Ermanno Mauro, as Des Grieux, was a wonder and a joy. He sang in a beautifully old-fashioned Italian tenor which he shifted skilfully from powerhouse to pianissimo. Vicente Sardinero was a suave and sympathetic Lescaut, Renato Capecchi, compelling as always, a slightly overscaled Geronte. But Mirella Freni's Manon was the best I have ever heard. This is an interpretation in which every word and every note have been meticulously studied for the maximum (and authentic) dramatic potential. The whole has been integrated into a characterization at once vocally voluptuous and histrionically true.

Katia Ricciarelli sang her first Violetta in this country with the same male leads (Alberto Cupido and Leo Nucci) she had in the Paris *Traviata* last year. Her vocal tone is still very sure and very sweet; softer, more long-breathed arias were elegantly and movingly sung. But she seems to lack the easy agility and gusto necessary for the gay courtesan of Act I, performs in a very old-fashioned way, and persisted in slowing the pace of the music each time she took it over. Richard Bradshaw did a very unsubtle job of conducting.

Marilyn Horne's first Dalila was undertaken at the persistent urging of San Francisco's general director, Terence McEwen. He nurtured her career during his years at Decca, and is full of novel ideas of what roles his favourite singers should (or should not) undertake. Miss Horne had fears that the part lay too low and too heavily for her own exquisite coloratura-mezzo instrument, and for most of Act I her fears seemed to be justified. But the remainder of the opera justified the risk. Although she is still not one's ideal pagan temptress, Miss Horne had numerous occasions to display her gorgeous middle and high voice, and her meticulous musicianship.

Régine Crespin's *La Grande Duchess de Gérolstein* is hardly "new" (after 163 performances in this production alone, it seems hers as much as Offenbach's). This faultless French production (originally staged for Toulouse) was a model of how to do Offenbach – with taste, grace and panache. Mme Crespin, playing a sort of pantomime version of her Marschallin, is the only "superstar" soprano I have seen who has totally mastered the style and wit of good operetta – a minefield into which others have ventured to such joyless effect. She, and everyone and everthing else involved, made of this an exquisite Gallic confection.

Ricciarelli's Violetta: sure and sweet

A splendid midseason surprise was the revival of Ponchielli's *La Gioconda*, a production so aggressively opulent and busy it became a US television hit (with Luciano Pavarotti) in 1979. Monserrat Caballé sang with phenomenal quality and intelligence. The great Spanish *diva* has come to seem primarily the stalwart guardian of a priceless, fragile jewel of a voice; one listens, spellbound, for each silver syllable or onmipotent blast – and looks to others for acting. Mariana Paunova of Bulgaria sang Laura as a Turandot-style ice-princess, in a strange, steely-throaty warbling tone I admired for its clarity and control.

Conducting and stage direction (Andrew Meltzer and Lofti Mansouri) held a fine cast together well, and the Dance of the Hours was of classical quality – the vastly improved opera ballet, in fact, was one of the most important steps forward in Mr McEwen's second complete San Francisco season.

David Littlejohn

Opera in Italy

Tristan und Isolde
Teatro Communale, Bologna

It ended, as it had begun, with Wagner seated at the piano and the Wesendoncks in appreciative attendance – a domestic drama that served as the worldy background to the dreams and ideals in *Tristan und Isolde*. Such is the framework for Yuri Lyubimov's first undertaking since directing his adaptation of *Crime and Punishment* in London three months ago, and his last before he returns to Moscow to face Soviet officialdom over the future of his beloved and threatened Taganka Theatre.

In common with the handful of other opera productions he has mounted in Italy in recent years, Lyubimov's first Wagner staging is original, controversial and extremely well-executed. He handles *Tristan* as both an escape from and an extension of Wagner's day-to-day circumstances at the time of its conception. So he is less concerned with *Tristan* as a mystical ideal of transcendental love or an expression of Schopenhauer's pessimistic philosophy than with its embodiment of the unattainable romantic fantasy that has to be reconciled with grim reality.

He makes his point before a note has been sung: the three characters occupying the stage during the Prelude represent the triangle of relationships between Wagner and Otto and Mathilde Wesendonck, who put Asyl, a small property next to their own home in Zurich, at the Wagners' disposal when *Tristan* was beginning to take shape. The mantles of the two legendary lovers – in the form of cloaks brought on stage by two masked figures – are assumed by Wagner and Mathilde, who are gently kept apart by Otto in a slow retreat to a background silhouette. The production thus assumes its duality of real and ideal, as the love-world of Tristan and Isolde is developed in the chaste nineteenth-century terms of the Richard-Mathilde relationship – only to be intruded upon directly or as a giant looming shadow by König Marke in the severe, respectable shape of Otto Wesendonck, the generous patron, morally-affronted friend and understanding husband.

Lyubimov never lets us forget this duality. His three central characters are clothed in respectable dark nineteenth-century costumes, in contrast to Kurwenal, Brangaene and Melot who exist only as naturalistic props in the fantasy world of the inner drama. He makes extensive use of a large central steel frame which breaks up the stark expanse of blackened stage and acts as a gate through which the two worlds interact. The emotional impact of events is not depicted in the polite and carefully spotlighted expressions of the main protagonists, but in a stunning series of lighting collages.

His use of masked figures is less successful. But their mirrored faces in Act III do afford a compelling reflection of Tristan's psychological pain, and Lyubimov's *coup de grâce* is to use two of the masks to depict the lovers' idealized reunion at the end of the *Liebestod* – giving the three principal singers time to resume their positions around the Wesendonck piano for the first curtain call.

As theatre, Lyubimov's approach succeeds hugely. The charge that he has abused the text does not stand close inspection, but he does appear guilty of exaggerating the influence of Mathilde and the whole Wesendonck episode as an inspiration for *Tristan*. Some Wagnerites will be disturbed by the importance accorded to Marke, and will find little or no illumination of the night-day axis in Act II.

The production's only serious weakness lay in the pit, where the playing lacked body and bite, thereby sabotaging the orchestra's role as a principal protagonist. Zoltan Pesko gesticulated his way through the score with more physical energy than musical understanding, but he did keep well in touch with the stage and could boast the dubious virtue of allowing every word to be heard clearly. The Teatro Communale, which is technically and acoustically better equipped for Wagner than most Italian provincial theatres, has imported most of the cast from West Germany. Wolfgang Neumann and Dagmar Trabert filled the title roles with tolerable accuracy but little beauty. Matthias Hölle made an outstanding Marke, and Livia Budai's Brangaene, for which her weighty dark voice is strikingly well-suited, also deserves a wide hearing.

Andrew Clark

Concerts

ECO/Cleobury
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Those who avoid imitations and resolutely seek out the real thing among the myriad of Christmas concerts will surely have ended up at Sunday night's Elizabeth Hall concert, which brought the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, to London. They sang not only carols but Mozart's "Coronation" Mass, which they are recording, with a Handel Alleluia thrown in for good measure: an exhausting programme which came in the midst of preparations for the broadcast of their famous Christmas service of lessons and carols.

So it was not, perhaps, to be wonderd at if their sound was slightly more pallid than one has come to expect: the deadening ambience of a full Elizabeth Hall scarcely offers the acoustical support of King's Chapel vault. But in the Mozart Mass one could only presume that no one at rehearsal had ventured towards the back of the hall to hear the balance of the choir against the English Chamber Orchestra: until restraining hands were waved in the Credo, the choir was swamped. It is also arguable whether such a clean, tasteful account serves this music best: it was hard to efface the memories of Rafael Kubelik's ample warmth in this work a few months ago.

The soloists were good, though the fine soprano, Patrizia Kwella, sounded more strained than usual.

The Director of Music at King's is now Stephen Cleobury: while his brother Nicholas has thrust himself into the hurly-burly of the London new-music scene, Stephen Cleobury partakes of the deep, deep peace of collegiate life. Their conducting styles have an element of crisply tailored neatness in common: but I longed for a touch of the brother's energy in Stephen Cleobury's shapely gestures.

Those gestures were more attuned, of course, to directing the choir than the orchestra, and in a group of unaccompanied twentieth-century carols the choir shone with most of its usual fastidious precision.

There was more exuberance in the Alleluia chorus which was tacked on to the end of Handel's Organ Concerto Op 4 No 4: otherwise a very slow, careful account in which the admirable David Briggs displayed just those qualities of delicate touch and volant fingerwork which Hawkins said Handel's playing transcended.

Nicholas Kenyon

Songmakers' Almanac
Wigmore Hall

Vienna, Graham Johnson has shrewdly suggested in his latest programme notes, was Brahms's New York: an adopted land near enough yet far enough away, where words and music had lighter air to breathe and friendship and anonymity weighed in an easy balance. But his ideals and his two "angels of judgment", Clara Schumann and Elisabet von Herzogenberg, remained in Germany.

The Songmakers on Sunday carried the songs and letters back and forth over the border in "A Viennese Requiem", a song portrait of Brahms in the last period of his composing life. With Ann Murray as the voice of Clara, Felicity Lott as Elisabet, Richard Jackson as Brahms himself and Graham Johnson narrating and accompanying, songs were as cunningly as ever matched to words by specific reference and gentle allusion.

"Therese", for example, sung by Felicity Lott, provided an entertaining little conversation piece as we eavesdropped on the critical correspondence, complete with musical examples, between Brahms and Elisabet on its different versions. And then there was Schumann and his "An Anna", an early song, guarded and championed by Clara and Brahms and given a chill, rather literary performance by Mr Jackson. Better suited to his sharp-witted artistry was Wolf's "Abschied", taken here as a brilliantly vicious little comment on the Beckmesser-Hanslick-Brahms connexion.

Allusion ranged from the tenderness of Miss Lott's "Wir wandelten", a rapt vocal illustration of Clara as melodic muse, to Mr Jackson's bluff "Kein Haus, keine Heimat", with visions of Brahms slurping sardines from a tin at breakfast. *Carmen* was his favourite opera, and there was Miss Murray, bringing in turn languor and gleaming exuberance to two of the "Zigeunerlieder".

The 1890s approached, and with them the last songs prophetic of the death of the angels and of Brahms himself. Ann Murray, whose contributions alone would have made the evening worthwhile, gave minutely expressive readings of "Immer leiser" and "O Tod, wie bitter bist du". Part two of the Viennese Requiem turns to Alma Mahler, wife of Brahms's "king of insurgents", as the Almanac return on January 18.

Hilary Finch

RECENT ISSUES

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Fraser denies demerger

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 12. Dealings end, Dec 29. Contango Day, Dec 30. Settlement Day, Jan 9.

House of Fraser, the department stores group, moved quickly yesterday to scotch rumours that it had finally reached agreement with its biggest shareholder, Lonrho, to demerge Harrods.

As the Knightsbridge store reopened for business after Saturday's bombing, the shares slipped 4p to 222p. Later they rallied to close at 230p, a gain on the day of 4p.

House of Fraser said there was no truth whatever in the speculation that it planned to rid itself of the biggest jewel in its crown. Attempts by Lonrho, which owns 30 per cent of Fraser, to push through a vote calling for the demerger of Harrods have all failed. Some analysts believe a demerger could be worth up to 200p a share to Fraser.

The M&G Group, one of the city's biggest financial institutions, also denied yesterday that it was planning to sell its 1.7 million Fraser shares. Dealers reported heavy demand for the shares yesterday and renewed call option business.

The rest of the equity market began the run-up to Christmas in a firm mood with the FT Index closing up 2.8 at 762.1, but turnover remained low.

Much of the index's firmness was attributable to **Bowater**, the pulp and paper group, where the price jumped 9p to a high of 254p. The group has just announced plans to sell a lossmaking mill in Canada and has received big support for the shares from New York Market pundits believe the company may be a bid candidate.

There is a little more to yesterday's announcement that Gilbert House Investments has bought Coventbrook, the investment property company, than meets the eye. Coventbrook is the property arm of C&A, the Dutch-owned stores group, which received 2.1 million Gilbert House shares in return for the sale. Further deals between the two companies cannot be ruled out. Gilbert House rose 2p to a new high of 26p.

Distillers was another cheerful market, rising 2p to 221p after news of a 5 per cent rise in the price of its export standard brands of scotch and an 8 per cent increase in its deluxe brands. However, the market, which is looking for pretax profits of £190m, says the increase does not affect the important US market and is unlikely to have much influence on fourth quarter earnings.

The slightly stronger pound helped gilts to gains of up to 50p at the longer end in moderate trade.

Shares of **Akroyd & Smithers**, London's largest quoted jobbing firm, held steady at 455p after shareholders passed a resolution at an extraordinary meeting to approve Mercury Securities purchase of 29.9 per cent of Akroyd's shares.

The offer for **Charterhouse Group** and **RIT & Northern** by the new holding company, Charterhouse J. Rothschild, has gone unconditional after receiving acceptance totalling 80.8 per cent. RIT rose 2p to 236p, while the RIT Warrants, mentioned in *The Times* last week at 72p, added a further 3p to 87p.

The Boots fan club continues to grow. Yesterday the shares rose 1p to a high of 185p after a presentation of the company to Scottish institutions in Edinburgh by broker Rowe & Pitman. Dealers in London said the meeting appeared succesful, with several large buying orders reported.

Michael Hartland, a private investment company, has increased its holding in textile group **AJ Worthington (Holdings)** with the purchase of 205,000 for an undisclosed sum. It now owns 422,000 shares, 21.07 per cent of the equity, and has secured a place on the board. Shares of Worthington rose 3p to 41p.

Drayton Consolidated Trust has been topping up its stake in **Lincroft Kilgour Group**, the cloth merchant and menswear manufacturer, and now owns 877,000 shares, or just under 20 per cent of the total. Lincroft held steady at 61p.

Border & Southern Stockholder Trust has reduced its stake in Munford & White, the electronic security group, which joined the Unlisted Security Market last year. Border & Southern has sold 417,000 shares at 215p and now owns only 300,000 shares, or 9.30 per cent of the total. Munford's shares were unchanged at 225p yesterday.

Promotion House has received acceptances totalling 17 million shares (58.95 per cent) for its 11-for-30 all-share bid for **Berkeley & Hay Hill**. The bid, worth 10¼p, will not be extended. Shares of Berkeley slipped ¼p to 9p on the news.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

PLANTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Sterling: Spot and Forward

Money Market Rates

Other Markets

Dollar Spot Rates

Euro-$ Deposits

Gold

Pegi

NEWS IN BRIEF

$300m Qatar claim for arbitration

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

General insurance groups look to their lifeline

The long drawn out battle for control of Eagle Star between BAT Industries and Allianz Versicherungs was drawn out a little further by the Takeover Panel yesterday.

In a brief statement the panel indicated that there will be a full meeting of its members tomorrow to consider the procedure which should be adopted to deal with rival offers. The Takeover Code was not designed to cover an auction which the sale of Eagle Star has become. It is therefore also a test of the Panel's ingenuity as well as its good sense.

The discussions which took place with Mr John Hignett, director general of the panel, concentrated on two themes. As *The Times* reported yesterday the favoured option is to arrange a one-day auction, after which there would be no further bidding for a specified period. Alternatively the two sides would be free to continue the bidding for a set period, say one week, beyond the present December 30 deadline.

Whatever the final decision the panel's delay in offering guidance to the companies involved and their shareholders is adding to the general confusion in the market where Eagle Star shares closed 12p higher yesterday at 731p. The delay is also damaging for Eagle Star's prized business.

The chances that Allianz will ultimately succeed appear to be improving. It does start with the enormous advantage of holding 29.9 per cent of Eagle Star's equity and the average price per share it would pay in making a winning bid is much more economic than the price BAT would pay for victory.

At another level, that of management, BAT would have nothing like the headache of Allianz. The German company's hope of justifying the acquisition of Eagle Star must rest in anything other than the long term on the efforts of the existing senior managers. Most, if not all, of them are now firmly identified with Eagle Star's stand against Allianz and it is not easy to see them harnessing themselves to the German wagon.

Of wider significance than Eagle Star's fate is the ripples it will cause in the British insurance pond, especially if Allianz carries the day.

Forgetting defensive mergers forged in fear, the boards of our leading composites might profitably look to coordinating some of their activities, especially in overseas markets where a combined clout would certainly ring more bells. I fear, however, that they are not used to anticipating events or trends: major initiatives would be taken only under strong provocation from outside.

There is however, a greater disposition now to consider the value of insurance companies in relation to the market prices of their shares. It is not conceivable that an insurace company would fall to a bidder at less than its net asset value. Yet notwithstanding the vigorous bidding up of Eagle Star, other composite insurance shares are selling at yawning discounts to net worth.

Confirming observations I made in this column just over two weeks ago, one of the industry's leading figures has written pointing to the constrast between share prices depressed by earnings figures and the recent rapid rise in the companies' net worth – in some instances by over 50 per cent.

"This has been largely due", he points out, "to the combination of sound investment policies and rising stock market prices, but whatever the reason the total return to shareholders has been considerably greater than is apparent solely through the conventionally accepted criterion of the profit and loss account. Moreover, the substantial growth in life business such as has been seen this year is only very partially reflected in earnings in the year of acquisition and yet is a reliable source of future growth in earnings."

The value of the composite companies' expanding life insurance business is especially interesting. This business might not exist as far as the accounts presented to shareholders are concerned; yet if the astute analysts at brokers Wood, Mackenzie have done their sums correctly – and they usually do – the life business of the two leading general offices, Royal Insurance and Commercial Union, are currently worth £400m in balance sheet terms. CU shares on that basis are currently selling at a discount of 50 per cent to their net asset value.

Pegi's Sou in demand

Mr Chooi Mun Sou arrived in London this morning and will play a significant part in the future of Britain's beleaguered tyre company, Dunlop. Mr Sou is the legal adviser and director desingnate for the Malaysian Pegi group, holders of 27 per cent of the Dunlop equity. He is here to attend a Dunlop board meeting on Thursday and will be hotly pursured by Sarasin International Securities whose proposed £40m cash rescue bid for Dunlop is dependent on Pegi's support.

Dunlop had been expecting Pegi to hand over £55m in cash for the remaining 51 per cent of Dunlop Malaysian Industries, but that deal fell through last Friday. Pegi still owes Dunlop a further £43m for the Malaysian plantation interests. Although this deal was renegotiated in July a serious question mark now hangs over it.

Both sums would have had a favourable impact on Dunlop's debt mountain of £400m. That, and Dunlop's poor trading record under the outgoing chairman, Sir Campbell Fraser, prompted the £82m agreement with Sumitomo of Japan. Dunlop not only sold its European tyre operations, it also sold its 40 per cent stake in Sumitomo.

Pegi's senior executives so far have responded coldly to Sarasin's proposals but the Malaysians may not be in as strong a position as they make out. The Malaysian Foreign Investment Committee is unhappy about such large sums leaving a country which is pursuing a local majority ownership policy for foreign companies operating there.

Even with Sir Maurice Hodgson in Sir Campbell's seat there is some agument whether a man of his stature and experience can achieve much unless he cuts away large pieces of the remaining business with the intention of merging or selling off a profitable residue. If that proved to be so, Pegi's interests might be worth far less than it thought.

Scott Lithgow to challenge £86m oil rig cancellation

From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

British Shipbuilders' Scott Lithgow yard is to challenge yesterday's long-awaited cancellation of an £86m oil rig for a consortium headed by Britoil.

The rig, owned by Lloyds Leasing but contracted to Ben Odeco and Britoil, was due for completion in April. But it is only 30 per cent complete and already more than 500 days behind schedule.

The Britoil statement said four offers to renegotiate the contract had been refused and the obvious implication is that Britoil is blaming British Shipbuilders for forcing the cancellation.

In a terse reply to the announcement a Scott Lithgow spokesman said: "We do not regard it as validly given under the contract. We intend to challenge it and are examining the contractual position with our legal advisers."

He refused to discuss the basis for the challenge. But there will be no immediate lay-off among the yard's 4,500 workforce.

Mr Malcolm Ford, Britoil's Joint managing director said: "We have done our best to cooperate with British Shipbuilders to help them overcome the problems. But given past delays and future uncertainties no client could expect to continue.

"We were prepared to contemplate a slippage of up to 300 days beyond the contracted delivery date. But our own assessment is that it would take much longer."

The cancellation has placed Scott Lithgow's future in the political arena.

Dr Norman Goodman, the Greenock and Port Glasgow Labour MP, is seeking an adjournment debate and a meeting with Mrs Thatcher. Mr Donald Dewar, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, said the Government should use its 48 per cent stake in Britoil to keep the order with the yard.

He was among Labour MPs who yesterday sought, but were refused, an emergency debate on the matter.

He demanded that a "responsible minister" – either Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, or mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland – "reassure the House that ministers are acting and not merely standing by as no doubt concerned but ineffective spectators."

Shopstewards from the yard meet Mr Younger today, but it is believed he will refuse to intercede.

If no lifeline is forthcoming up to 1,000 men will be laid-off next month and the remaining jobs will be in jeopardy. However, this in conflict with the Confereration of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions' policy which rules out any compulsory redundancies.

The yard has no further orders in its book and it is estimated that closure would raise the unemployment rate in the Inverclyde area of Stratclyde to between 36 and 40 per cent.

A six-week breathing space has been offered for reconsideration. Britoil says it will then turn, probably to the Far East for a replacement.

Bankers cut back on credit

Basle (Reuter) – Banks have further reduced their credit lines to most foreign borrowers in the first half of 1983, reflecting the international debt crisis and stagnation of world trade, the Bank for International Settlements said yesterday.

The average length of loans also stretched out further, mainly because the banks refused to renew some short-term credits falling due and because they had to reschedule the debts of countries unable to repay.

The twice-yearly BIS report on international debts showed that the amount of credit which the banks of leading non-Communist industrial nations had pledged to the rest of the world but had not yet paid out fell by $2.8 billion during the first six months of the year.

Total new lending to these countries at $10 billion was only one-third as much as in the first half of 1982, a trend already apparent from earlier BIS quarterly debt reviews.

Eastern Europe's net indebtedness to the banks fell by a huge $11.9 billion, or a quarter, between the end of 1981 and mid-1983. But the BIS said the rate at which banks were cutting back their exposure to these countries was slowing.

Worst off was Poland, where a significant volume of maturing short-term loans was not extended during the first half of 1983. It's unused credit lines fell to 4.3 per cent of its outstanding debt, the worst ratio of all problem countries listed by the BIS.

Most new borrowing by Brazil, the Third World's largest debtor, was for periods longer han two years, reflecting the rescheduling of its debt.

Mexico, the first big country hit by the debt crisis in 1982, was able to borrow about $1.3 billion on a short-term basis. Further signs of its recovery were increases in its unused credit lines and its deposits with the banks.

Venezuela and Chile, however, received fewer short-term loans and their undisbursed credit also declined. Venezuela's unused credit was down to 4.8 per cent of its debt, the lowest ratio in Latin America.

Individual countries in Asia (excluding Japan), where unused credit lines rose by $1.9 billion showed the relatively good credit standing of most nations in the region.

Indonesia, Malaysia, India, Taiwan, China, Mexico and Algeria were the only inmportant borrowers outside the group of leading non-communist nations to record marked increases in their undisbursed credit facilities.

Top performer was China, whose unused loan pledges were nearly two-and-a-half times as large as the amount of money it had actually borrowed. Its deposits with foreign banks at mid-year also exceeded its debts by nearly $10 billion.

The banks' undisbursed credit commitments to the whole of the rest of the world represented only 16.6 per cent of total oustanding debt at min-1983. This was nearly 12 percentage points lower than five years ago.

Successor story: Ronald Utiger (left) and Sir Brian Kellett

Utiger takes over at TI

By Andrew Cornelius

Mr Ronald Utiger, deputy chairman and managing director of TI group, will succeed Sir Brian Kellett as chairman of the company next May. The appointment will take effect at the group's annual meeting.

Mr Michael Boughton, deputy group managing director, will become deputy chairman and group managing director (operations).

Yesterday's decision on the chairmanship of TI follows months of speculation over a successor to Sir Brian, who has been with the engineering and motor components group for 28 years.

Mr Utiger was favourite for the job when TI indicated that it was looking for a new chairman in autumn last year. However, the selection committee set up to find the successor hired headhunters to seek possible candidates from outside. The main argument against Mr Utiger was age – he is 57.

But by tradition the top job at TI goes to the most experienced and able member of the existing staff.

Over the past three years Sir Brian has masterminded a big rationalization of the group which has seen the workforce cut by half to 32,000 and a change in the mix of its businesses away from the heavy end of the engineering industry towards consumer products.

Airship plans cash call

By Michael Clark

Airship Industries is planning to ask shareholders to dig deeper into their pockets to support a big rights issue – the second in less than ten months.

The group, which hopes to introduce mass production airships in this country for the first time since the 1930s has joined forces with Mr Alan Bond, the businessman behind Australia's America's Cup victory, for the purpose. Mr Bonds company, Bond Corp Holdings (Australia), intends to underwrite the issue, details of which will be announced this week.

Shares of Airship Industries were suspended at 93p yesterday amid growing speculation that the group was running short of cash. In February it announced a one-for-two rights issue at 140p to raise £5.6m this was quickly followed by a listing on the Unlisted Securities Market valuing the entire group at £17.5m.

Since then it has started a manufacturing subsidiary in Canada and received several firm orders, but losses have continued to grow. This led to speculation that another rights issue was on the way.

Airship's biggest shareholder is European Ferries with 15 per cent, followed by several institutions, including Royal Bank of Canada with 10 per cent, Commercial union with 6.05 per cent and Citicorp Capital Investors with 5.69 per cent.

No dividend after record loss at JFB

By Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

Johnson and Firth Brown, the Sheffield special steel and engineering group, reported a record loss of £10.9m yesterday and said it was passing all its dividend payments for the year.

But Mr Roy Shephard, the group's new chief executive, said that while it faced a long haul, the company appeared to have turned the corner and was likely to have a much better year this year.

"Anything as sick as JFB is not going to get better overnight, but I am absolutely confident that over a three to five year period we can return it to a respectable level of profits and start to pay shareholders dividends once again".

The pretax loss in the year to the end of September was more than double the previous year's £4.8m. Of this, £8.9m was attributable to JFB's 50 per cent share in the loss of Sheffield Forgemasters joint venture with British Steel.

As the joint venture is an associate company, the losses were not a cash drain on JFB, but did result in a £12m transfer from reserves, increasing the company's gearing from 57 to 64 per cent.

Last year's bitter 24-week strike at Greening, JFB's Warrington metal engineering subsidiary, cost £1.6m, and although Greening's order book is now back to 75 per cent of its pre-strike level, it will lose money again this year.

Mr Shephard said that even a small upturn in the economy would have a considerable impact on the group's profit and loss account. He said that the banks had been very patient during the company's crisis, and it had succeeded in reducing its borrowings marginally.

At the operating level, before interest payments, JFB recorded a small profit of £1.8m, against £800,000 the previous year, with the lion's share coming from its special steels division. The setting up of the Forgemasters joint venture in 1982 resulted in the main group's turnover dropping from £161m to £102m.

Index hits record high

Selective support for blue chips and the various bid sitnations kept the equity market on the boil yesterday. The FT Index closed at a new high 2.8 up at 762.1. The previous record of 760.2 was set last week.

A rise of 9p in shares of Bowater to a new high of 254p was mainly responsible for the FT maintaining its momentum in these quiet conditions. Dealers are speculating that a bid from across the Atlantic may soon be on the way. Others to draw support included Grand Metropolitan 7p to 348p, while Distillers on 121p, Hawker Siddeley on 360p, TI Group on 164p and Vickers on 122p all added 2p apiece.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 762.1 up 2.8
FT Gilts: 82.64 up 0.30
FT All Share: 463.5 up 1.04
Bargains: 19,280
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 95.08 up 0.15
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1247.97 up 5.80
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,484.17 down 81.47
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 857.25 down 3.52
Amsterdam: 155.4 unchanged
Sydney: AO Index 755.7 down 0.4
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1018.3 up 10.2
Brussels: General Index 134.48 up 0.61
Zurich: SKA General 307.30 up 0.40

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
$1.4185 up 55pts
Index 82.1 up 0.2
DM 3.9350 up 0.0050
FrF 11.9950 up 0.01
Yen 335.25 up 1.75
Dollar
Index 131.2 up 0.1
DM 2.7730 down 0.0047
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1,4170
Dollar DM 2.7720
INTERNATIONAL
ECU£0.574682
SDR£0.732164

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 8⅞
3 month interbank 9$^{5}/_{16}$-9$^{7}/_{16}$
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10$^{5}/_{16}$-10$^{7}/_{16}$
3 month DM 6½-6⅝
3 month Fr F14-13¾
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9$^{11}/_{16}$
Treasury long bond 100$^{11}/_{32}$-100$^{15}/_{32}$

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $378.65 pm $375
close $374.75-$375.50 (£264-£264.50)
New York (latest): $375.50
Krugerrand* (per coin): $386-$387.50 (£272-£273.00)
Sovereigns* (new): $88-$89 (£62-£62.75)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

$300m Qatar claim for arbitration

Arbitration proceedings begin in Paris early next year over a $300m claim for damages against Shell and Whessoe, the process plant contracting group, by the Qatar Petroleum Producing Authority.

The claim follows a fire at the Umm Said natural gas liquids plant in Qatar in 1977. Shell was project manager and Whessoe a sub-contractor.

Whessoe, which reported increased pretax profits of £6.8m, against £6.5m, for the year to September 24, said there is nothing the company can do to provide against the outcome of the case. Even provision against 10 per cent of the claim would amount to the group's net worth.

Investors' Notebook, page 16

● Creditors of Court Line, the travel and shipping group which crashed in 1974, will receive a sixth payment of 2p in the pound early next year, the liquidators, Peat Marwick Mitchell, said yesterday. The payment brings the total payout to 20p in the pound, paid on total agreed claims of approximately £45m.

● Nigerian officials are meeting the Export Credits Guarantee Department in London this week about rescheduling or refinancing trade debt arrears to British exporters. An ECGD spokesman said exporters have been asked for and these are thought to total less than £1.5 billion.

● Argentina plans to raise tax on all imports by 1.5 per cent and to provide incentives for its exporters, according to a Bill publishers yesterday.

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Sterling pulls back half a cent of losses

By Wayne Lintott

The pound managed to recoup half a cent to close at 1.4185 against the dollar in quiet trading yesterday, having been a further half cent higher earlier in the day.

The Deutschemark and Swiss franc also regained part of last week's losses as European foreign exchange markets kept trading to a minimum.

But the dollar once more began surging ahead when New York entered business in the later afternoon.

The Bank of England was not thought to have intervened on any significant scale, but in Frankfurt the West German central bank, the Bundesbank, sold a further $52.75m in an effort to bolster its flagging currency.

The dollar once again finished at its best level against the mark at 2.7730.

The French franc fared slightly better, gaining a couple of centimes to 8.4515 to the dollar. The yen, still weakened by the Liberla Demcrats' failure to gain a mojority in the Japanes election battle, continued lower to 236.25.

Once again the prospect of higher US interest rates bolstered the dollar. Dealers said last Friy's US$5.5 billion rise in the weekly money supply had been discounted, but today's meeting of the policymaking Federal Open Marke Committee would be more significant.

It will indicate whether pressure is to be applied to bring rates down and cut the deficit

WALL STREET

Stocks continue upward move

New York (AP-Dow Jones) – Stocks continued to edge upward with the big capitalization issues in the forefront in early trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up more than 5 points and the transportation index up more than 2.

Advancing issues lead declines by a scant 690-to-680 margin. Trading was moderately active.

General Electric was up ¼ at 55⅝; General Motors up ½ at 74⅜; Ford up ¾ to 41½; Exxon down ⅛ at 37½; Eastman Kodak up ⅜ to 74½; International Business Machines up 1 at 121⅝ and Teledyne up 1¼ to 163¼.

South Pacific was 39 unchanged; Honeywell 136⅞, up 1½; Burrougs 48¾, down ⅛; Motorola 133⅞; up 1¼; Abbott Laboratories 45⅝, up 1,

£315m gas project will benefit steel industry

Go-ahead for North Sea pipeline

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Department of Energy has given approval for the development of an 180 mile-long gas pipeline from the North Sea Fulmar field operated by Shell and Esso.

The £315m pipeline would provide work for British Steel' pipe manufacturing plant at Hartlepool. It is the eleventh big North Sea project to be approved this year.

The Department of Energy is also likely to give approval to development of the Beatrie "C" project before the end of next week, confirming previous government predictions that British industry will benefit by as much as £1 billion from a resurgence of activity in North Sea.

The approval for te Shell-Esso development of the Fulmar field confirms previous announcements by the two companies - they operate in the North Sea under a partnership agreement - that they will spend as much as £800m on the development of gas and oil fields by the end of the decade.

The Fulmar pipeline will involve construction of plant at the St Fergus base south of Aberdeen. It will also be used as the "spine" pipeline for the development of other North Sea as fields which are now being considered by the oil companies.

The Clyde Field operated by Britoil will be connectable to the pipeline

The pipeline has become viable because of taxation changes in the last Budget and by a hardening of natural gas prices paid to the oil companies.

The Minister of State for Energy, Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, said yesterday: "I am keen to see companies themselves develop plans and invest in gas gathering. I hope that the British steel industry will take advantage of this project to build up its share in onshore construction work."

Alick Buchanan-Smith

Shell and Esso had been told in advance that the Fulmar project would be given Government approval. Because of this British Steel has been able to avoid further lay-offs at its Hartlepool pipeworks and bring back men who had been laid-off.

Approval of the Fulmar development is a confirmation that the oil industry is being left to devise methods of bringing gas from the central sector of the North Sea.

An earlier proposal for a join industry-Government gas gathering pipeline was abandoned after the Government insisted that the scheme should be financed outside the Government borrowing requirement without Treasury guarantees for loans already approved by a consortium of banks led by the Bank of Scotland.

Britannic Assurance in trust takeover

By Wayne Lintott

Britannic Assurance surprised the stock market yesterday when it announced an agreed all-share offer for the Midland Trust at a level equivalent of full net asset value, a hefty premium over the value ruling in the market.

The complicated bid basically values Midland at £8.9m against a pre-announcement value of £5.6m. Britannic already owns 33.3 per cent of Midland through it own holdings – it has been a shareholder since 1929 – and those of its pension funds. Coupled to irrevocable acceptances already received, Britannic has acceptances of 50.9 per cent.

Britannic is to offer enough of its own shares, down 8p at 450p, for each Midland, up 63p at 198p, to gain control when the bid goes unconditional. That means that Midland shareholders will not know exactly how many Britannia shares they are to receive but on a rule-of-thumb calculation the offer works out at about one-for-two.

The precise terminology is Britannic Ordinary stock units – taken at 458p – equivalent to the value of 109.1 per cent of the net asset value per Midland Ordinary. The net asset value will be determined when the bid is declared unconditional to a precise formula.

A cash alternative is being provided through the adviser, S. G. Warburg, which will arrange to place any Britannic shares Midland shareholders accept for cash.

Midland is an authorized investment trust consisting entirely of shares quoted on the London stock exchange.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

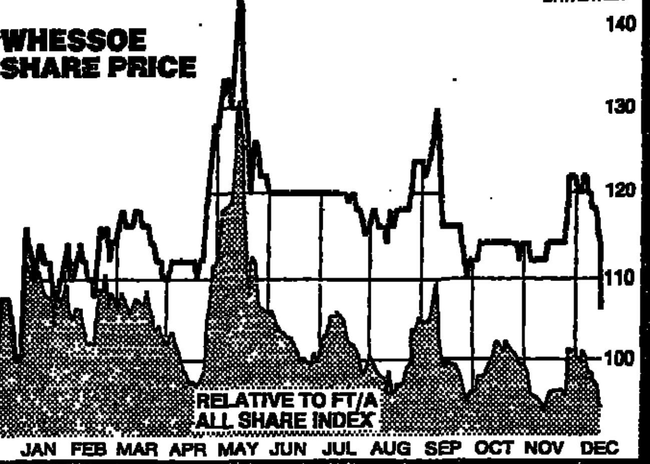
Hampton Gold Mining Areas: Six months to June 30, 1983. Interim division 1p (same). Figures in £000s. Turnover 6.189 (4,675). Trading profit 322 (248). Investment income and interest received 654 (504). Royalties 528 (227). Exploration costs 6 (240). Profit on investments sale nil (3). Pre-tax profit 1,523 (784). Shares 200 down 3.

A Monk & Co: Half year to August 31, 1983. Interim dividend 2p (1.5p) to reduce disparity. Company anticipates total for the current year of not less than the 6.0p per share paid last year. Figures in £000. Turnover 52,000 (45,000). Pretax profit 1,137 (1,375). Tax 398 (344) Minorities nil (72). Shares 122 down 1.

Farrel Bridge: Six months to June 6, 1983. Figures in £000s. Turnover 5,763 (3,460). Trading profit 378 (30 loss). Interest payable 12 (27). Pretax profit 366 (57 loss). Tax 97 (credit 73).

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

Whessoe seeks to bridge AGR gap



Whessoe remains an interesting investment opportunity after producing a £300,000 increase in pretax profits to £6.8m in the year to September 24.

This was on turnover of £111.3m against £98.1m last time.

The orderbook at the process plant engineering group, at £300m is identical to last year's with the £75m of orders coming in compensating for the contracts completed during the year.

Good and bad new for shareholders is the near completion of the £130m orders for the heavy engineering work at the Heysham and Torness adanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) nuclear power stations.

The contracts will be completed by next spring apart from some routine maintenance and service work. But because Whessoe prefers to defer taking profits from such work until it is completed the benefits will not show through until 1984 and 1985.

Whessoe's problem is filling the gap let by the completion of these orders. Mr William Smart, the chairman reports that the group is better placed than a year ago to pick up orders having completed a £5m restructuring at its Darlington plant which has seen numbers reduced from 800 to 300 and the instalation of computer numericaly controlled machinery increasing efficiency sixfold.

But the key to the group's success hinges upon its ability to translate the increase in order inquiries into contracts. On the offshore side this is already beginning to show with work on a £13m contract to provide British Gas with a new module nearly completed and strong inquiries from other energy companies.

Elsewhere, the light engineering division has managed to maintain pretax profits at the £850,000 level, despite a grim marketplace, while the Australian and Canadian divisions also traded in the black.

The blackspot turned out to be the high pressure pipework division at Alton where a £1.5m provision was necessary to cover the increasing costs of contracts which are taken on a five-year timespan.

Another shadow over the group is the threatened $300m writ for damages from Qatar which has yet to be resolved. In the absence of a successful claim, which would wipe out the group, Whessoe is well placed to take advantage of any upturn in demand for process plant and energy equipment and with £11m in the bank has the resources to invest in growth areas.

Whessoe shares were 8p down on the day at 106p.

May & Hassell

The recovery in the timber cycle, together with internal steps the industry has taken to cut costs and improve performance, have worked wonders for the profitability of the sector.

Meyer Internaional, the giant of the industry, reported much higher interim profits this month followed by Phoenix Timber, which disclosed a return to profits.

Yesterday it was the turn ofthe timber importer May & Hassell, where the recovery gathered pace in the half-year to September 30, leading to a more than tenfold rise in pretax profits from £126,000 to £1.19m.

May & Hassell took action during its last financial year to rationalize the timber importing side of its business, including closing its loss-making Cardiff operation.

Mr Peter Atley, chairman, is therefore predicting that the half-year improvement will be more than maintained in the full-year results and the group's confidence is reflected in a 23 per cent rise in the interim dividend from 1.3p to 1.6p net

During the first half, May & Hassell managed a small reduction in interest charges from £1.19m to £1m and the group has also benefited from rising timber prices and improved profit margins. Turnover in the six months rose by 20 per cent from £28.7m to £34.5m.

The group has now bought the remaining 50 per cent of Hallam Group, although in the first half it turned in another disappointing performance. May & Hassell's half-share of its losses amounted to £67,000 compared with £65,000 in the whole of 1982-1983.

However, the market was prepared to overlook this and the shares rose 15p to 113p in response to the results.

Norcros

No sooner has the construction-to-packaging group Norcros shrugged off one negative label, the problem Hygena Kitchens, than its failure to win control of the builders' merchants UBM, has lumbered it with another.

The interim figures clearly illustrate why UBM is such an important component in expansion. The figures are slightly deceptive. Pretax profit is up from £12.5m to £13.9m on turnover marginally lower at £164.7m. The interim dividend is up from 2.08p to 2.3p.

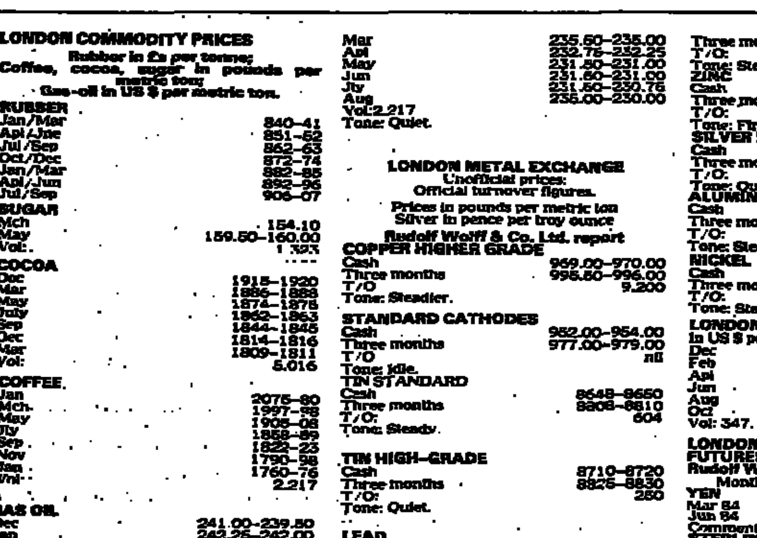
Hygena, despite the losses accounted for around £9m of turnover so the expansion of the other areas has been significant. And the best performer was construction, where the upsurge of housebuilding is proving a worthwhile base on which Norcros can expand overseas.

At the final stage in the summer, international profits fell 25 per cent and now have more than halved to £2.3m.

Ceramics were the other big profit earner but once again the business of the international division slid badly down.

Engineering held its profit level while print and packaging managed a marginal increase. Norcros obviously has an ability to make money in Britain but is doing a lot less well abroad. The shares at 143p were down 5p and yielding a healthy 7 per cent, but will continue to be overshadowed by the prospect of a renewed bid for UBM next year.

COMMODITIES



LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Jan/Mar	840–41
Apl/Jne	851–52
Jul/Sep	862–63
Oct/Dec	872–74
Jan/Mar	882–85
Apl/Jun	892–96
Jul/Sep	906–07
SUGAR	
Mch	154.10
May	159.50–160.00
Vol:	1,323
COCOA	
Dec	1915–1920
Mar	1886–1888
May	1874–1878
July	1862–1863
Sep	1844–1845
Dec	1814–1816
Mar	1809–1811
Vol:	5,016
COFFEE	
Jan	2075–80
Mch	1997–98
May	1905–08
Jly	1858–89
Sep	1822–23
Nov	1790–98
Jan	1760–76
Vol:	2,217
GAS OIL	
Dec	241.00–239.50
Jan	242.25–242.00
Feb	239.25–239.00
Mar	235.60–235.00
Apl	232.75–232.25
May	231.50–231.00
Jun	231.50–231.00
Jly	231.50–230.75
Aug	235.00–230.00
Vol: 2,217	
Tone: Quiet.	

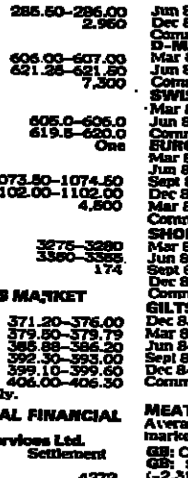
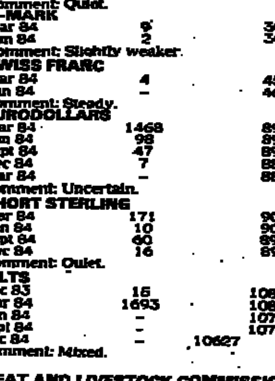
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices: Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton. Silver in pence per troy ounce.
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGHER GRADE	
Cash	969.00–970.00
Three months	995.50–996.00
T/O	9,200
Tone: Steadier.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	952.00–954.00
Three months	977.00–979.00
T/O	nil
Tone: Idle.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8648–8650
Three months	8808–8810
T/O:	604
Tone: Steady.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8710–8720
Three months	8825–8830
T/O:	250
Tone: Quiet.	
LEAD	
Cash	275.50–276.00
Three months	285.50–286.00
T/O:	2,950
Tone: Steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	606.00–607.00
Three months	621.25–621.50
T/O:	7,300
Tone: Firm.	
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	605.0–606.0
Three months	619.5–620.0
T/O:	One
Tone: Quiet.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1073.50–1074.50
Three months	1102.00–1102.00
T/O:	4,500
Tone: Steady.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3275–3280
Three months	3380–3385
T/O:	174
Tone: Steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Dec	371.20–376.00
Feb	379.50–379.79
Apl	385.88–386.20
Jun	392.30–393.00
Aug	399.10–399.60
Oct	406.00–406.30

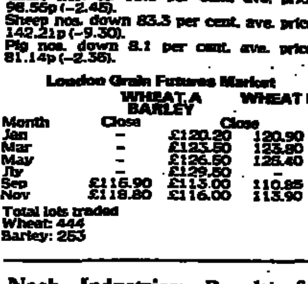
Vol: 347. Tone: Quiet slightly.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Mar 84	36	4272
Jun 84	–	4313
Comment: Weaker.		
STERLING		
Mar 84	112	14229
Jun 84	–	14256
Dec 84	–	14285
Comment: Quiet.		
D-MARK		
Mar 84	9	3646
Jun 84	2	3680
Comment: Slightly weaker.		
SWISS FRANC		
Mar 84	4	4587
Jun 84	–	4659
Comment: Steady.		
EURODOLLARS		
Mar 84	1468	8956
Jun 84	98	8922
Sept 84	47	8901
Dec 84	7	8878
Mar 84	–	8856
Comment: Uncertain.		
SHORT STERLING		
Mar 84	171	9022
Jun 84	10	9003
Sept 84	60	8982
Dec 84	16	8966
Comment: Quiet.		
GILTS		
Dec 83	16	10850
Mar 84	1693	10801
Jun 84	–	10720
Sept 84	–	10707
Dec 84	–	10627
Comment: Mixed.		

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 20:
GB: Cattle. 98.79p per kg lw (–3.37).
GB: Sheep. 152.08p per kg est d c w (–2.31).
GB: Pigs. 77.15p per kg lw (–2.31).
England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 15.2 per cent. ave. price. 98.85p (–3.52).
Sheep nos. down 9.8 per cent. ave. price. 156.23p (–4.78).
Pig nos. down 31.8 per cent. ave. price. 77.12p (–2.35).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 16.3 per cent. ave. price. 98.56p (–2.45).
Sheep nos. down 83.3 per cent. ave. price. 142.21p (–9.30).
Pig nos. down 8.1 per cent. ave. price. 81.14p (–2.36).



London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT A Close	BARLEY Close	WHEAT B
Jan	–	£120.20	120.90
Mar	–	£123.50	123.80
May	–	£126.50	126.40
Jly	–	£129.50	–
Sep	£115.90	£113.00	110.85
Nov	£118.80	£116.00	113.90

Total lots traded
Wheat: 444
Barley: 253

Nash Industries: Results for year to September 30, 1983. Final division 2.5p making 4p (4p). Figures in £000s. Turnover 14,973 (11,751). Trading profit 881 (604). Interest 205 (190). Pretax profit 676 (414). Shares 68p up 2p.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

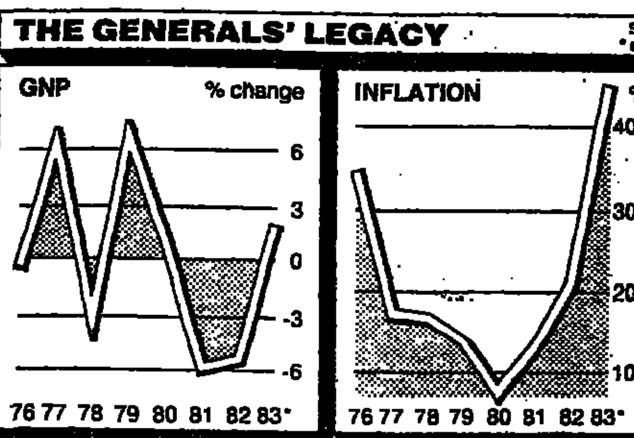
1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



Douglas Tweedale on the Herculean tasks facing the new government in Buenos Aires

How Alfonsin plans to bring Argentina back from the brink

THE GENERALS' LEGACY



At a press conference last week, someone asked Argentina's new economy minister, Señor Bernardo Grinspun: exactly how much money the country owed its foreign creditors.

At first Señor Grinspun was silent, then came a rueful grin and the answer: "That's what I'd like to know".

If anything, the minister's reply was simply an accurate indication of the magnitude of the economic crisis President Raul Alfonsin faces after taking power from a discredited military regime.

For Argentines tired after more than seven years of repressive and inept military rule, Señor Alfonsin's inauguration on December 10 was a moment of euphoria, celebrated by thousands who danced in the streets until dawn.

A new mood of optimism and confidence took hold of the country and it was reflected even in Buenos Aires' thriving currency black market, usually an accurate barometer of the financial climate.

The "parallel" exchange rate for the dollar has not risen at all since Señor Alfonsin was elected on October 30, while the spread between the official and black market rates has closed from nearly 100 per cent a few months ago to just 6 per cent now.

Last Friday the Argentine President went on television to give the first details of his economic plans. These include tax reforms, a national food programme and a pledge to make a sharp cut in the country's budget deficit. "Today we have begun a battle to defeat inflation and reactivate the economy", he declared.

Behind that confidence, however, is the reality of the crisis which Señor Alfonsin must solve if he is to fulfil his campaign promise to bring "100 years of peace and prosperity" to Argentina.

The foreign debt, Latin America's largest after Brazil and Mexico, tops the list of problems. Private economists estimate it will be in the neighbourhood of $45 billion by the year's end and the Government is already nearly $10 billion in arrears. Another $9 billion in interest and principal payments fall due during Señor Alfonsin's first year in office.

Nor are prospects much brighter on the domestic front, with inflation calculated at almost 450 per cent for 1983 and still rising.

Domestic industry, hit hard by the military government's policy of unrestricted imports, is operating at less than 60 per cent of capacity, and problems with the foreign debt have virtually paralyzed commercial credit necessary to import vital industrial materials. Total unemployment and under-employment is at about 10 per cent and the state's budget deficit is an unprecedented 15 per cent of gnp.

To tackle this mess, President Alfonsin has engaged the services of a team of neo-Keynesian economists from the traditional wing of his Radical Party who have said that their main virtue will be a pragmatic approach to the country's problems.

Señor Grinspum is a specialist in trade and finance issues who was at the head of the central bank during the last Radical government in 1963. The new central bank president, Señor Enrique Garcia Vazquez, was formerly vice-president of the same institution.

Recovery depends on steady grain prices, goodwill from abroad and a little luck

According to Radical Party sources, the New government will have a two-pronged strategy: stop-gap measures aimed at resolving the most immediate problems and buying time for the implementation of a longer-term programme.

The new package of measures indicates that the new regime has quickly diagnosed what needs to be done and is making the kind of noises that the West should like. Señor Alfonsin said that the Government was aiming for 5 per cent economic growth next year, and added that it wanted to cut the budget deficit to 4 per cent. The programme would include cuts in the defence budget. Whether Señor Alfonsin can carry it through is another matter.

The government's first action was to slap price controls on a long list of consumer goods to try to counter "excessive" price rises in recent weeks.

Government officials have repeatedly said of the foreign debt that the Alfonsin administration will do its best to meet its obligations, if this does not interfere with the development of the domestic economy.

That philosophy was put into practice last week, as amid some confusion Señor Alfonsin's government told foreign creditor banks that it was unable to renegotiate $8 billion in public sector debt as previously agreed and asked for six month's grace in which to reschedule a total of $19 billion of debt falling due between 1982 and 1984.

Foreign bankers interpreted the move as an effort to establish a strong negotiating position from which to seek compromise on repayment terms. "We are going to see six months of a poker game in which each side tries to outbluff the other", said a Beunos Aires executive of an American bank. "Eventually, both sides will have to give in a bit to reach an acceptable solution".

The government will also seek assistance from the International Monetary Fund in repaying the debt. A high official of the Alfonsin administration, possibly the central bank president Señor Garcia Vazquez, is expected to travel to Washington soon to seek reactivation of a $1.65 billion stand-by agreement which lapsed in September when the military government failed to meet the economic targets set out in the agreement.

Officials have been unable to determine the size of the deficit, let alone trim it

Only $650m of that agreement was paid out by the IMF, and Argentina will probably try to convince the governors to ease the conditions of the loan to obtain the remaining $1 billion. It will also probably seek a new stand-by agreement to facilitate the rescheduling of the private bank debt before next June.

By restricting imports of luxury goods and boosting traditional exports of grain and cattle products, Señor Alfonsin's economic team is confident it can repeat last year's $3.5 billion surplus, $2 billion of which will be diverted to interest payments on the debt.

Most bankers agree that with steady world grain prices, continued good harvests, goodwill from foreign governments and a little luck in rescheduling problem loans, Argentina could overcome its debt crisis in a few years.

The task of rebuilding the domestic economy, racked by recession and inflation, will be more difficult.

President Alfonsin faces the equally important but contradictory goals of trying to revive Argentina's prostrate industry and implement much-needed social programmes while at the same time having to fight inflation by cutting back public spending.

The Radical Party economists had devised a plan to reduce inflation which was based on the reduction of the public sector deficit, and lower interest rates, but also relied heavily on the cooperation of private business and labour in pricing and wage agreements, the fact that it had to impose 48-day price controls in the last few days indicates that the government may be off to a bad start with the business community and that its hoped-for social pact may be in danger.

Reducing the budget deficit may prove an equally Herculean task for President Alfonsin: The new treasury officials have reportedly not even been able to determine its exact size, let alone start to trim it. With Argentina's overgrown public sector representing 45 per cent of gnp, some experts estimate that the state's deficit could be as high as 15 per cent of gnp.

Despite this daunting prospect the government believes it has found the key to boosting needed social spending without fueling inflation: this is the country's military budget, which is believed to account for 40 per cent of total state spending.

President Alfonsin plans to use all the political qower which his 52 per cent election victory gives him to cut back the military budget, taking advantage of the armed forces considerable unpopulartiy at the moment to bring them under tight control, politically and economically.

Whether this strategy bears fruit before the inevitable erosion of any government's popularity sets in will depend on the political acumen and economic imagination of the president's advisers. But, as one businessman said: "Even if Alfonsin accomplishes nothing else, if he controls the military he will have gone a long way towards solving the country's problems."

Financial notebook

Exit Clive Thornton to mixed reviews

The flies on the walls at the Building Societies Association (BSA) say that Mr Clive Thornton received a warm ovation from his colleagues at his last council meeting before leaving the Abbey National to head the Mirror Group. Whether it was an ovation of relief or of gratitude, no one was telling.

Gratitude is genuinly felt by many involved in housing finance who found Mr Thornton's influence stimulating. Even those with a cynical eye to the publicity purpose behind his bold statements saw him as a useful catalyst to other societies.

Sighs of relief, by contrast, may well have been heard, not just from those traditionalists who mistrust the whole basis of the new competitive approach amongst societies. For even if one accepts all the arguments for freer markets in housing finance and savings, it is questionable how much longer Mr Thornton's "thinking the unthinkable" in public could have helped the cause of progress.

Three main strands can be distinguished from his many public statements and initiatives over the past five years:

● First, and foremost, his original desire to involve building societies more directly in housing renovation, in inner city revival and in building itself.

● Second, his memorable patenting of the Granny Bond name to challenge head on the Government's attack with index-linked investments on the societies' staple retail savings market – a move which became symbolic, if not necessarily the cause, of the rapid expansion in premium savings products by societies over the past three years.

● Third, his challenge to the BSA's recommended rate structure.

The first two of these themes have long ceased to make news. Competition for savings on premium products is now an established part of building societies' operations. They account for almost all of their net inflows, against one-third in 1980. Their growth indeed reflects the natural evolution of market pressures.

These pressures are consistently stronger on demand for mortgage finance, which continues to outstrip supply. Attractive net-of-tax interest costs and the expansion of home-ownership keep up that pressure. Building societies naturally concentrate their creative energies on devising smarter ways to raise their share of the supply.

'Twas ever thus. Only the methods change. A decade ago the way was through expanding branch networks to increase customer flow; today the way lies through designing premium and wholesale savings products, combined with tighter margin control.

As for putting the "building" role back into building societies, to revive one of Mr Thornton's favourite early quotations, that has moved from the press notice to the drawing-board, from the head-line to the bottom line. It is now down to hard graft at street and site level.

Several societies besides the Abbey National have been quietly setting up the necessary systems, vehicles and staff to fulfil this wider housing role. Their scale of operations is still small, when set against the total housing finance market and the press fanfare which preceded it. It all takes time, patience, skill and solid work – mundane but effective qualities which do not offer natural headline material.

Not surprisingly, the media attention in recent months has been focused on Mr Thornton's third main theme – his challenge to the grip of the so-called BSA "cartel". That grip has been loosened. As from October 21, the association no longer recommends, it "advises". Members are no longer obliged to inform the association 28 days in advance of a change in theri rates on short-call money.

This move provoked the rumour that the Abbey might be the first society to make the full break by cutting unilaterally its share rate. Comment and counter-comment from several of the major societies flew thick and fast across the news pages. Nothing has happened. Money flows in and out of the societies at rising and record levels, and the basic mortgage and share rates stay at 11¼ per cent and 7¼ per cent respectively.

Hindsight is an easy game. Yet did any serious analyst of housing finance believe those rumours that Mr Thornton would go out with the big bang of a unilateral mortgage rate cut by the Abbey National before the new year?

It would have been commercial lunacy, even if other money market rates had turned lower, for a society to cut the price of a mortgage product for which demand was buoyant and price inelastic. And doubly so if that would effectively have meant increasin; its price on the savings product, demand for which has become almost electrically sensitive to marginal price movements.

The first leading society which truly breaks the BSA "cartel" is unlikely to cut its mortgage rate in advance of its competitors; rather it will be, in very different circumstances from today, the society which unilaterally raises its savings rates. Then it will be responding, of course, to early signs of a serious mortgage shortage. Plus ça change . . .

The author is economist with the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

Jamie Stevenson

New chief at Austin and Pickersgill

APPOINTMENTS

British Shipbuilders: Mr K. Douglas, managing director of Austin and Pickersgill, Sunderland, is retiring on January 1. He will be succeeded by Mr G. H. Parker, who is divisional managing director of ship repair at British Shipbuilders, and will continue in this position on a part-time basis until the end of January. Mr P. C. M. Thompson, who is on secondment to British Shipbuilders from the Department of Trade and Industry, will become corporation secretary on January 1. He succeeds Mr F. E. Noah, who will become commercial director of Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering

Britoil: Mr Robert Speirs will become director of finance and planning next May.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¾%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5½%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

Losses continue at Volkswagen

Hamburg, (Reuter) – Volkswagenwerk (VW) expects 1983 group turnover to rise to around DM 4 billion (£987m) from DM 37.4 billion last year, a company spokesman said. But another net loss of DM 300m is feared.

The spokesman said world vehicle sales were provisionally set to reach 2.12 million this year against 1982's 2.11 million and "are expected to rise further in the coming months."

Unsatisfactory performance by the company's Latin American subsidiaries was the main reason why the group's net loss rose to DM 247 millions in the first nine months of this year from DM 146 million in the same period last year.

Interim profits jump 67% at Halma

Halma, whose interest include anti-terrorist security equipment and environmental control products, has reported first-half profits 67 per cent up on the same period last year.

Halma
Half-year to 1.10.83
Pretax profit £1.27m (853,000)
Stated earnings 2.28p (1.57p)
Turnover £9.75m (£7.80m)
Net interim dividend 0.606p (0.505p)
Share price 131 – Yield 1.178

Mr David Barber, chairman and managing director, forecast record profits for the full year. Pre-tax profits in the six months to October 1 jumped to £1.27m on turnover up from £7.8m to £9.75m in its last full year.

During the half Halma brought Wilkinson and Simpson, which makes chemical tablets for water testing. The purchase price was about £1m, subject to W & S's profits to March 1984 and it also bought Apollo Manufacturing, which makes smoke detectors, for £323,500.

The company's subsidiaries have all produced good profits, except for Argosy Fenton, a manufacturer of louvres and smoke venting equipment for the construction industry. Its closure in November should help the balance sheet in the second half.

The American companies are benefiting from the improvement in the US economy. Those that manufacture anti-terrorist bomb blankets, closed circuit televisions for shops and document destructors which disintegrate paper more effectively than shredders are also benefiting from heightened tensions.

The company's shoe division has been so successful that it is being split from the existing company. Standard Engineering will concentrate on sales machinery to the repair market and a new company, Standard Machinery, will sell to manufacturing industry.

The dividend for the first six months has been raised from 0.505p to 0.606p. The shares were up 5p at 131p.

WALL STREET

	Dec 16	Dec 15		Dec 16	Dec 15
AMF Inc	15¾	15½	Fst Intrst Bncp	43⅝	[illegible]
AMR	35¾	35¾	Fst Penn Corp	6⅝	[illegible]
Allied Chem	52⅝	52½	Ford	40⅝	[illegible]
Allied Stores	47⅝	48½	GAF Corp	15⅞	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	16⅝	16⅝	GTE Corp	42⅝	[illegible]
Alcoa	42⅞	42⅝	Gen Dynamics	59⅝	[illegible]
Amax Inc	24½	24⅝	Gen Electric	55⅝	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	27½	27⅝	Gen Foods	52⅝	[illegible]
Am Brands	59⅝	59⅝	Gen Mills	54	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	54	54	Gen Motors	73⅝	[illegible]
Am Can	47⅝	47½	Gen Pub Util NY	9⅝	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	48	48	Gen Tire	37⅞	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	17⅞	18	Genesco	7⅝	[illegible]
Am Home	49½	48⅝	Georgia Pacific	24⅞	[illegible]
Am Motors	6⅞	6⅝	Getty Oil	80⅝	[illegible]
Am Nat Res	42⅝	42⅝	Gillette	46⅝	[illegible]
Am Standard	31	30⅝	Goodrich	30	[illegible]
Am Telephone	63⅝	63⅝	Goodyear	29⅝	[illegible]
Armco Steel	19⅝	19½	Gould Inc	30⅝	[illegible]
Asarco	29⅝	29½	Grace	45⅝	[illegible]
Ashland Oil	26⅝	26⅞	Gt Atlic & Pacific	11⅝	[illegible]
Atlntic Richfield	40⅝	41⅛	Greyhound	25½	[illegible]
Avco	31½	31½	Grumman Corp	26⅝	[illegible]
Avon Products	24⅝	24⅝	Gulf Oil	42⅝	[illegible]
Bankers Tst NY	45½	44⅝	Gulf & West	30⅝	[illegible]
Bank of America	20⅝	20	Heinz H J	35½	[illegible]
Bank of Boston	40⅝	40⅞	Hercules	36⅝	[illegible]
Bank of NY	31⅝	32	Honeywell	135⅝	[illegible]
Beatrice Foods	31	31	IC Inds	47⅝	[illegible]
Bethlehem Steel	26⅝	26⅞	Ingersoll	60⅝	[illegible]
Boeing	45⅝	44⅞	Inland Steel	29⅞	[illegible]
Boise Cascade	41⅛	41⅛	IBM	122⅝	[illegible]
Borden	55⅞	55½	Int Harvester	12⅞	[illegible]
Borg Warner	24½	23⅞	INCO	14⅝	[illegible]
Bristol Myers	41⅛	41	Int Paper	57⅝	[illegible]
BP	22½	22½	Int Tel Tel	42⅝	[illegible]
Burlington Ind	34	34	Irving Bank	52⅝	[illegible]
Burlington Nthn	88	88⅝	Jewel Co	47⅞	[illegible]
Burroughs	49⅞	47⅞	Jim Walter	30⅝	[illegible]
Campbell Soup	61⅛	61½	Johnson & John	39⅝	[illegible]
Canadian Pacific	41	41⅛	Kaiser Alumin	18⅝	[illegible]
Caterpillar	47	47½	Kerr McGee	28⅝	[illegible]
Celanese	75⅝	75⅝	Kimberly Clark	93	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Canadian Prices

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

THE TIMES

National Computer Competition

Early in the New Year, following the success of The Times Classroom Computer Competiton, which attracted thousands of entries, Computer Horizons will be launching a national competition open to all. The aim of the competition is to find the best original use of a microcomputer for a socially useful purpose, which could be a novel computer program or the innovative use of a computer peripheral. Contestants, who may represent schools, colleges, clubs or associations or enter as individuals, will be required to provide a proposal in no more than 1000 words for judging on a regional basis. Ten regional winners, with runners-up, will be selected and the ten winners will take part next Easter in a national final at the London Computer Festival. There will be valuable prizes and the national winners will have the opportunity of demonstrating their applications at the Festival. Full details will be published next month.

Spencer and Sarah are the final winners

A boy aged 13 and a 15-year-old girl are the winners of The Times Classroom Computer twelfth competition. They are Spencer Doane of The Wells House School, Malvern Wells, Worcester, and Sarah Turner of Dr Challoner's High School, Buckinghamshire.

The winning decision was made by a tie-break question. The answers were 1) B; 2) A; 3) C; 4) B; 5) B.

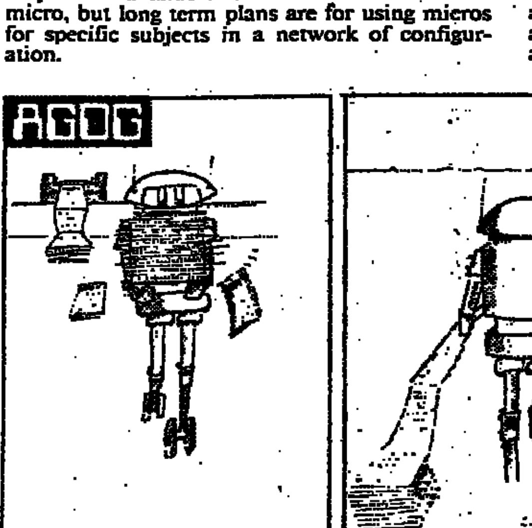
The winners will both receive an Atari 600XL computer for their schools, and personal gift of The Times Atlas of World History.

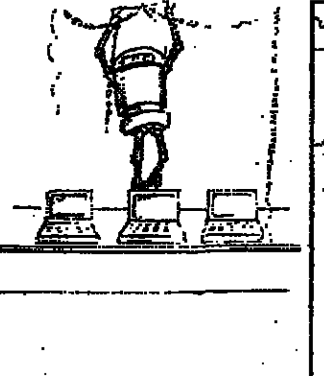
The eight runners-up are Mark Whitehouse, Worle School, Weston-super-Mare, Avon; Alastair George, Herts & Essex High School, Bishops Stortford; Rachel Thomson, Greenbank High School, Southport, Merseyside; Raymond Blake, Seevic School, Benfleet, Essex; Paul Mellor, Aberdeen Grammar School, Aberdeen, Scotland; Toby Winch, Heathfield High School, Congleton, Cheshire; Kay Maynard, Southmoor School Sunderland, Tyne & Wear; Julia Cummins, Perse School for Girls, Cambridge. Each will receive a Time Atlas.

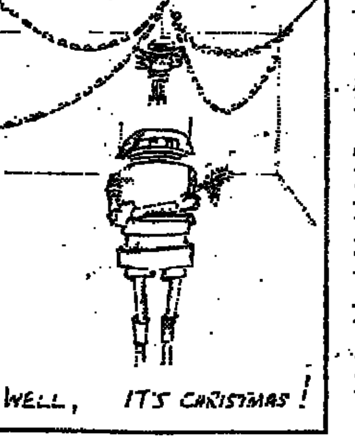


SPENCER DOANE, 13, uses his Commodore 64 at home with his two brothers. They are now attempting to write their first programs, being content up to now to play games. He enjoys plastic modelling, carpentry and metal detecting. At school he is captain of the rugby team and enjoys shooting and archery. At present, computing is in its infancy at school, where they have available one PET and one BBC micro, but long term plans are for using micros for specific subjects in a network of configuration.

SARAH TURNER, 16, plays the inevitable games on a Spectrum, but is now hoping to use it in a Young Enterprise project she is running with a local group. They are now marketing crackers, but will move to ear-rings in the New Year. She is taking O level computer studies, and thinks that her knowledge of computers will be useful in her chosen career of pharmacy. Her computer teacher, Mrs E. Hoare has two RMLs and two BBCs available, but work is in hand for a new computer lab which will be equipped with a BBC network system.







Girls are showing the way

By Geoffrey Ellis

When we launched The Times Classroom Computer Competition, we had no idea of the extent of the popularity it was likely to achieve among our school-age readers. They reacted to it wholeheartedly with entries totalling more than 3000.

A surprisingly high percentage of answers were correct each week. An average of 63 per cent of the Over 15 age group had all correct answers.

There was a wide geographical spread but some specific areas, notably Scotland and Bristol, appeared more than others.

The computing world, although a comparitively new one, is heavily male dominated, so it was encouraging to see a good proportion of girls either as winners or runners up.

At least two schools, by consistently good entries, won two Atari computers each, and others had both a computer winner and Atlas runner up.

Staff showed an impressive enthusiasm for the subject, and talking to them I found that an increasing number of their pupils are turning from playing games to writing more serious applications programs.

Schools varied widely in their equipment. A selection of micros, ranging from Sinclair ZX81s, Spectrums, PETS, VIC 20s, BBCs and RMLs were in computer rooms.

The use of micros in other areas of teaching is growing . . . while physics, geography and maths departments are fairly common users, some of the more innovative schools are now offering word processing in their commercial studies classes, bypassing the conventional typewriting class.

The results show that the spread of technology is not concentated only in the South East. Some of the most innovative schools that I spoke to were situated in northern rural areas.

Effect of clause in charterparty

Tor Line AB v Alltrans Group of Canada Ltd

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered December 15]

The House of Lords considered the scope of clause 13 of the Baltime charterparty in allowing an appeal by the charterers, Tor Line AB from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dillon and Sir Denys Buckley) (*The Times* April 8, 1983) who on March 30, 1983 allowed an appeal by the owners, Alltrans Group of Canada Ltd from the judgment on January 20, 1982 of Mr Justice Bingham (*The Times* January 25, 1982; [1982] 1 Lloyd's Rep 617) who had held *inter alia* in favour of the charterers, that the umpire had come to the correct conclusion on the effect of the clause.

Clause 13 of the Baltime form provides: "The owners only to be responsible for delay in delivery of the vessel or for delay during the currency of the charter and for loss or damage to goods on board, if such delay or loss has been caused by want or due diligence on the part of the owners or their manager in making the vessel seaworthy and fitted for the voyage or any other personal act or omission or default of the owners or their manager.

"The owners not to be responsible in any other case nor for damage or delay whatsoever and howsoever caused even if caused by the neglect or default of their servants.

"The owners not to be liable for loss or damage arising or resulting from strikes, lock-outs or stoppage or restraint of labour or vehicles (including the master, officers or crew) whether partial or general.

"The charterers to be responsible for loss or damage caused to the vessel or to the owners by goods being loaded contrary to the terms of the charter or by improper or careless bunkering or loading, stowing or discharging of goods or any other improper or negligent act on their part or that of their servants."

Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC and Mr Stephen Tomlinson for the charterers; Mr Bernard Rix, QC and Mr Michael Tugendhat for the owners.

LORD ROSKILL said that the owners were the charterers by demise of the TFL Prosperity. By a time charter dated April 24, 1979 the owners in that capacity time chartered the vessel to the charterers for six months and ten days on a Baltime Uniform Time Charter form. To the 25 clauses of the printed form the parties added typed clauses numbered 26 to 60 inclusive.

The vessel was of a type known as "roll on/roll off" and the charterers required her for their "roll on/roll off" liner service between Europe and the Middle East. It was no doubt for that reason that clause 26, the first of the additional typed clauses, specified in great detail the description of certain fixed structural attributes of the vessel together with particulars of her speed and consumption.

Clause 26 specified under the heading "Free Heights" that the main deck was to be 6.10 m. In fact the free height of the main deck at one critical point was only 6.05 m. As a result a Mafi trailer double stacked with 40ft containers could not be loaded on the main deck.

The charterers claimed damages from the owners, mainly for loss of freight, but there was also a small claim for damages for delay. The owners raised various defences but the only one which now remained relevant was based on clause 13.

The clause contained four separate sentences, but while each fell to be analysed in detail, each had also to be related to the other so as to construe clause 13 as a whole. To say that the grammar of those four sentences and indeed the drafting was in many places sadly defective and that on any view there was surplusage at various points in the clause did not solve the problems of construction but merely added seriously to their complication.

While the first three sentences of clause 13 were concerned with stating for what the owners would and would not be liable, the fourth was concerned with those matters for which the charterers were to be liable.

Having regard to the obligations imposed on the charterers by, in particular, clause 4 which required the charterers to provide and pay for many things including bunkers and loading and discharging, it was doubtful whether the fourth sentence of the clause imposed greater liabilities than would in any event fall upon the charterers either under the charter or at common law.

The principles applicable to the construction of the exception clauses in charters were set out in the judgment of Lord Justice Bowen in *Burton v English* ((1883) 12 QBD 218) when he said:

"There is ... another rule of construction which one would bring to bear upon this charterparty, and that is, that one must see if this stipulation which we have got to construe is introduced by way of exception or in favour of one of the parties to the contract, and if so, we must take care not to give it an extension beyond what is fairly necessary, because those who wish to introduce words in a contract in order to shield themselves ought to do so in clear words."

Applying those principles, without regard to any of the decided cases, it was not possible to construe clause 13 as a whole and in particular the second sentence as protecting the owners against liability for the breach of clause 26, which in the umpire's and Mr Justice Bingham's view they undoubtedly committed.

However, there was nothing in the decided cases which would lead to a different conclusion from that which was reached solely upon the language of clause 13. It followed that upon its true construction clause 13 did not in any event afford the owners a defence to the claim by the charterers.

If clause 13 were to be construed so as to allow a breach of the warranties as to description in clause 26 to be committed or a failure to deliver the vessel at all to take place without financial redress to the charterers, the charter virtually ceased to be a contract for the letting of the vessel and the performance of services by the owners, their masters, officers and crew in consideration of the payment of time charter hire, and became no more than a statement of intent by the owners in return for which the charterers were obliged to pay large sums by way of hire, though if the owners failed to carry out their promises as to description or delivery, were entitled to nothing in lieu.

It was difficult to believe that that could accord with the true common intention of the parties and that conclusion could not accord with the true construction of the charter in which the parties were supposed to have expressed that true common intention in writing.

Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser, Lord Keith and Lord Brandon agreed.

Solicitors: Ingledew Brown Bennison & Garrett; Clyde & Co.

Arresting ship as arbitration security

Re The Andria now renamed Vasso

Before Lord Justice Waller, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Robert Goff

[Judgment delivered December 19]

On an application by a plaintiff who had issued a writ in an action *in rem*, the admiralty court had jurisdiction to arrest a ship even when the plaintiff's purpose was simply to obtain security for an award in arbitration proceedings; but the intentions and conduct of the plaintiff in invoking that jurisdiction were matters to be taken into account by the court when deciding whether or not to exercise the power of arrest.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing an appeal by the owners of cargo lately on board the ship Andria now renamed Vasso, from the decision of Mr Justice Sheen on June 23, 1982, ordering that an undertaking given by the P & I Club of the respondents, the owners of the ship, given in order to procure the release of the ship arrested by the appellants, should be discharged.

Mr Roger Buckley, QC and Miss Hilary Heilbron for the appellants; Mr Julian Flaux for the respondents.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellants had a claim against the respondents for damage to goods carried on board the ship Andria. After the commencement of proceedings in the High Court, the parties entered into an *ad hoc* arbitration agreement, after which arbitration proceedings were pursued in the ordinary way.

The respondents subsequently sold the ship, which was renamed Vasso, but since the appellants had issued an admiralty writ *in rem* while the vessel was still in the respondents' ownership, and had subsequently renewed it, the admiralty court's jurisdiction could be invoked in order to arrest the ship, thus providing security for the appellant's claim.

An affidavit in the usual form was filed and a warrant for the arrest of the ship was issued. However, no mention had been made in the affidavit of the parties' agreement to arbitrate.

After negotiation, the appellants agreed to release the ship on an undertaking from the respondents' P & I Club, the United Kingdom Mutual Steam Ship Assurance Association (Bermuda) Ltd.

The respondents then applied by motion for a declaration that the admiralty court had had no jurisdiction to arrest the ship, and for an order discharging the undertaking given to the appellants.

Mr Justice Sheen held that since the only purpose in arresting the ship was to obtain security for any award ultimately made by the arbitrartors, and not to hear and determine any claim, the court had not had jurisdiction to arrest the ship. He therefore ordered the udertaking to be discharged.

He based that decision on his own decision in *The Maritime Trader* ([1981] 2 Lloyd's Rep 153) in which he followed earlier decisions of Mr Justice Brandon (as he then was) in *The Cap Bon* ([1967] 1 Lloyd's Rep 543) and *The Rena K* ([1979] 1 QB 377).

His Lordship said that while the court had the greatest respect for any opinion expressed by Lord Brandon (as he now was), he was unable to agree with his view that the admiralty court had no jurisdiction to arrest a ship where the purpose of the plaintiff was simply to obtain security for an arbitration award.

His Lordship was unable to conceive of a case where the jurisdiction of the court depended on the purpose of the plaintiff in invoking it.

Where under sections 1(1) and 3(4) of the Administration of Justice Act 1956 (now sections 20(2) and 21(4) of the Supreme Court Act 1981) the court had jurisdiction to hear the type of claim *in rem* endorsed on the writ, then, under Order 75, rule 5 *et seq* of the Rules of the Supreme Court, the court must have the power to arrest a ship.

But the exercise of that power was not mandatory, and it followed that the court's discretion in exercising the power might be affected by the manner in which, or the purpose for which, the plaintiff had proceeded.

On the law as it stood at present, the court's jurisdiction to arrest a ship in an action *in rem* should not be exercised for the purpose of providing security for an award which might be made in arbitration proceedings, because the purpose of the power was to provide security for an action *in rem*.

That might change when, eventually, section 26 of the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982 came into force.

In the present case, by pursuing proceedings both in court and by arbitration, and by failing to disclose the arbitration proceedings in their *ex parte* application for the warrant of arrest, the appellants had abused the process of the court.

It followed that, while the declaration granted by Mr Justice Sheen had been wrong, the Court of Appeal would not, in its discretion, interfere with the judge's order discharging the undertaking from the respondent's P & I Club.

Solicitors: Clyde & Co; Richards Butler & Co.

Dominant purpose test for privilege

In re Highgrade Traders Ltd

Before Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Robert Goff

[Judgment delivered December 16]

The claims officer of an insurance company, which refused to meet a claim for fire damage by the liquidator of an insolvent company on the alleged ground of arson by the company's controllers, was not liable to produce to the court, under section 268(3) of the Companies Act 1948, certain reports concerning the cause of the fire because their "dominant" or "single wider purpose" was to obtain legal advice in contemplated litigation.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by Mr A. J. Alexander, the claims officer, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Mervyn Davies on December 3, 1982, (*The Times*, December 9, 1982) of Mr Alexander's motion for the discharge of an order, made by Mr Registrar Bradburn on April 30, 1982, on the application of Mr Bernard Phillips, the liquidator of Highgrade Traders Ltd, that Mr Alexander should be examined on oath and be required to produce any documents, records or reports, in the custody, power or control of the Phoenix Assurance Co Ltd, which related to Highgrade Traders Ltd.

Mr Michael Turner, QC and Mr Patrick Twigg for the appellant, Mr Michael Crystal and Mr Richard Adkins for the liquidator.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that the dispute had arisen in consequence of a fire which had occurred in highly suspicious circumstances at the premises of Highgrade Traders Ltd on June 30, 1980. Sidney Balcombe & Co, fire assessors, had submitted a claim against the insurers on behalf of the company on July 31, 1980.

The insurers' solicitors had considered that litigation might ensue and had asked the insurers to obtain a fully detailed report. Thereafter, three reports had been complied for the insurers by, respectively, (1) Pyecroft & Arnold, loss adjustors, on September 2, 1980; (2) Hogg, Bullimore & Co, chartered accountants, on February 13, 1981; and (3) Dr J H Burgoyne & Partners, specialist fire investigators, on February 26, 1981.

On April 27, 1981, the insurers had written to the company stating that as they were satisfied that the fire had been deliberately and fraudulently started, they were not prepared to meet the claim.

In July 1981, it was resolved that the company be wound up voluntarily and Mr Phillips was appointed liquidator. In pursuance of his duty to the creditors, he applied for a section 268 order against the appellant, the responsible claims officer of the insurers, to examine him and to compel him to produce the three reports concerned. The appellant refused, claiming that the reports were privileged.

On behalf of the liquidator, Mr Crystal conceded that if the appellant could show that the reports were privileged, a section 268 order could not extend to them.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies had concluded, *inter alia*, that the reports had been commissioned for a dual purpose and that the evidence showed that the dominant purpose had been to find out the cause of the fire and not for litigation. But he appeared to have misinterpreted the effect of the relevant authorities on the facts.

In *Grant v Downs* ((1976)135 CLR 674,677) Chief Justice Barwick had held that a document would be privileged if it had been brought into existence for the "dominant purpose" of obtaining legal advice or aid in litigation, such litigation being a reasonable prospect at that time. In *Waugh v British Railways Board* ([1980]AC 521, 544) Lord Edmund-Davies, having adopted that test, continued: "Dominant purpose, then ... should now be declared by this House to be the touchstone. It is less stringent than "sole" purpose ...". Thus, the fact that the person who produced or commissioned the document had in mind other uses would not preclude privilege providing it had had the requisite "dominant" purpose.

That was not inconsistent with an earlier decision of the House of Lords in *Alfred Crompton Amusement Machines Ltd v Customs & Excise Commissioners* ([1974] AC 405, 432) where Lord Cross of Chelsea had described the two purposes for which the document there concerned had been produced as forming a "single wider purpose".

Applying those tests to the present case, The judge had concluded that the main purpose of the reports had been to ascertain the cause of the fire, while obtaining legal advice in the event of litigation had only been a secondary purpose.

His Lordship was unable to agree that such a duality of purpose had existed. The only reason for discovering the cause of the fire was to ascertain whether there had been fraud. It was clear that if the claim was persisted in, litigation would follow.

Knowing the cause of the fire was of no use on its own: the insurers were not pursuing an academic interest in the possibilities of spontaneous combustion. It was incontrovertible that the insurers had formed a view early on in the dispute that litigation was probable.

Since the documents were, in his Lordship's opinion, therefore privileged, and since it was unlikely that the appellant would be able on examination to provide any information about the fire which did not spring from those reports, his Lordship would exercise his discretion to quash the whole of the section 268 order.

Lord Justice Robert Goff agreed.

Solicitors: Lawrance Messer & Co; Heald & Nickinson.

Means inquiry before binding over

Regina v Central Criminal Court, Ex parte Boulding

It was a breach of the rules of natural justice for a court to bind an accused person over in anything greater than a trivial sum without looking at his means and allowing him to make representations as to the amount of the recognizance.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court with Mr Justice Taylor on December 12, so held, granting an application by Mr Stephen Boulding for judicial review by way of certiorari to quash an order of the Central Criminal Court on January 19, on appeal from the Mansion House Justices, binding him over to keep the peace and be of good behaviour for two years in the sum of £500.

HIS LORDSHIP said although, following the decision in *R v Woking Justices, Ex parte Gossage* ([1973] QB 448), there was no general obligation on a court to allow a defendant, even if acquitted, an opportunity to make representations before binding him over, it was impossible to see how it could arrive at a proper and suitable figure for the recognizance in the absence of any information as to the defendant's means.

Accordingly, unless the amount of the recognizance was trivial, it was a denial of natural justice not to inquire into the defendant's means before imposing the recognizance as the imposition of an unduly large recognizance could work very great injustice to the defendant.

Delay by prosecution

Regina v Guildhall Justices, Ex parte Carson-Selman
Regina v Guildhall Justices, Ex parte Knight
Regina v Guildhall Justices, Ex parte Pimm

In an extreme case where the prosecution's delay in serving committal papers and bringing on a committal hearing had been truly excessive, examining justices did have power on a further application for an adjournment and remand to require the prosecution to disclose whether they had a case to proceed which savoured of being a *prima facie* case against the defendant on pain of having the charges dismissed.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Mann) so stated on December 14, dismissing three applications for judicial review of a decision of the justices to grant a further adjournment of committal proceedings against the applicants.

No bottle trade mark

In re Coca-Cola Company's application

A Coca-Cola bottle was not a trade mark, Mr Justice Falconer held in the Chancery Division on December 14, on applications by the Coca-Cola Co to register as a trade mark under section 68 (1) of the Trade Marks Act 1938 the "distinctive shape and appearance" of their bottles. The section defined a mark as including "a device, heading, label, ticket, name, signature, word, letter, numeral, or any combination thereof" but did not seem to cover "a container".

Spurs gain nearly £½m from sponsors

Tottenham Hotspur yesterday announced a £425,000 sponsorship deal with Holsten Distributors Limited until the end of the 1985/86 season. Holsten, the lager brewers, have a package which includes shirt advertising, ground and programme advertising, match day sponsorship, the use of facilities inside Tottenham's new West Stand and other promotional activities related to the club.

"It's very good news for the club", the Spurs assistant manager Peter Shreeves said.

Holsten, who also sponsor Hamburg, the European champions, have joined the ranks of the big money backer. The money they are paying is comparable to the amount Manchester United and Liverpool collect from Sharp and Crown Paint respectively. Holsten had a dummy run last Friday when they sponsored Spurs for the live TV game at Manchester United. They were pleased with the outcome – although Spurs had to drop from their original asking price of £700,000.

Let me get on with my job – Pleat

Luton manager, David Pleat, yesterday pleaded to be left to get on with his job at Kenilworth Road after the speculation linking him with the Arsenal managership.

Pleat said his contract with Luton was not as long term as some people thought but added: "The persistent rumours about my future are quite pointless. I am manager at Luton and just want to be left to get on with the job here."

Colin Appleton will tell Swansea City today whether he wants become their new manager. The Hull City manager said after talks with Swansea chairman Doug Sharpe: "I am considering the club's offer."

The ban on Swansea bringing new players, has been partially lifted to allow them to sign free transfer men, and non contract players, and to borrow from other clubs. Swansea, £1.5m in the red, are bottom of the Second Division.

FOOTBALL

Whelan out of Liverpool side for Milk Cup encounter

Ronnie Whelan, the Liverpool player who scored the winning goal in last season's Milk Cup final, could miss tonight's fourth round match in the same competition against Birmingham City. At best he will be substitute – his rival is David Hodgson – as the Liverpool manager, Joe Fagan, keeps to the side which beat Notts County 5-0 on Saturday.

Michael Robinson is still unfit, so Craig Johnston keeps his place in the forward line alongside Ian Rush and Kenny Dalglish. Birmingham, beaten 1-0 at Anfield three weeks ago and losers against Southampton on Saturday, are expected to be unchanged also. Howard Gayle will thus face his former colleagues. The winners of the tie will play Sheffield Wednesday in the fifth round. In the event of a draw the replay will be at Liverpool on Thursday.

The Notts County midfield player, Martin O'Neill, is facing up to a Christmas of inactivity after being injured in a tackle with Liverpool's Graeme Souness at Anfield on Saturday. O'Neill, who was carried off after the incident, is unlikely to be fit until the New Year.

Everton will be without their forward, Graeme Sharp, over Christmas. He has had the plaster removed from a damaged ankle but will not be resuming training until next week. His club colleague, Andy Gray, who missed Saturday's defeat at Queen's Park Rangers with a knee injury, will be fit for next Monday's match against Sunderland at Goodison Park.

The Nottingham Forest central defender, Paul Hart, could be out of action for up to five weeks after suffering a facial injury in Saturday's match with West Ham. Hart had an operation for a fractured cheek on Dunday and is expected to be released from hospital by tomorrow.

The Queen's Park Rangers forward Mike Flanagan, has been transfer-listed at his own request. Flanagan, who cost Rangers £200,000 three years ago, has been concerned at the lack of chances for him in the first team squad having featured in it only five times this season.

Barnsley have dropped their interest in Aston Villa's midfield player, Des Bremner. Norman Hunter, Barnsley's manager, wanted Bremner on loan for last Saturday's game at Carlisle, when his side lost 4-2. But Villa's manager, Tony Barton, made it clear that the only way he would do a deal was if Barnsley bought him outright for £35,000.

Norwich have beaten a number of other first division clubs in signing the 17-year-old Hillingdon forward Robert Rosario, who has signed professional forms. No fee is involved but Norwich have agreed to send their first team to play a friendly at Hillingdon.

Aberdeen on flight of fancy

By Hugh Taylor

Aberdeen are ready tonight to take off on a football flight of fancy. At Pittodrie the side who have already been hailed in a poll conducted by France's leading sports magazine as "the best team in Europe's line up against Hamburg in what to most clubs would be a climax to an era of triumph – the final of the European Super Cup.

To Aberdeen, however, victory over the European Cup holders is now merely the first stop on a grand tour. In the New Year they will be challenging for four more honours – the European Cup Winners' Cup, of which they are holders, the Scottish League flag, the Scottish Cup, and the Scottish League Cup.

It is an entrancing prospect for the northern club, who have ousted the old firm of Celtic and Rangers to become Scotland's champions in Europe. "And it is also daunting," their manager, Alec Ferguson, says. He is too down-to-earth and realistic to allow pie-in-the-sky illusions to interfere with the task in hand.

Ferguson reckons his main job is to prevent his players from believing the matches have already been won. Everything appears to be going Aberdeen's way. For example: they have shown themselves to be the season's outstanding team with a run of 15 games without defeat; they have a confident air after drawing 0-0 in the first leg with Hamburg in West Germany; they have not been beaten at Pittodrie in a European cup tie since losing to Liverpool in the European Cup of 1980-81, 10 other teams having tried and failed.

Among these are Hamburg in the UEFA Cup two years ago; and the German club are apparently in a state of acute depression, without key players, out of form, and pessimistic about their chances tonight.

Ferguson takes it all with a pinch of salt. "We will have to be at our best," he says. "That's really all there is to it. If we play as we can play, we will become the first Scottish side to win the Super Cup."

With the captain, Miller, back to soothe the defence, and Strachan, the master of the midfield, ready again for action, Aberdeen should be powerful and stylish enough to ensure that Hamburg do not emulate Nottingham Forest who, although underdogs following the 0-0 draw in the first leg of their UEFA Cup tie at home, beat Celtic with considerable ease at Parkhead.

● Hamburg's management yesterday moved to quell a players' revolt and named the forwards, Dieter Schatzschneider and Wolfram Wuttke, for tonight's match, Reuter reports.

"I'd rather play Schatzschneider and Wuttke alongside a bunch of amateurs than have a team meeting tell me which players to leave out," Hamburg's president, Wolfgang Klein, said. His comment followed a meeting held by most of the team on Sunday at which the two players came under fire because of Hamburg's recent poor performances.

After a three-hour meeting with the manager, Gunter Netzer, Hamburg's captain, Felix Magath, pledged a new beginning "with Schatzschneider and Wuttke." Magath complained after the team's 2-1 defeat by Gremio of Brazil in the world club championship match in Tokyo that the two players were "unbearable."

HAMBURG (probable): Stein; Hieronymus, Wehmeyer, Jakobs, Schroeder, Hartwig, Groh, Rolff, Magath, Schatzschneider, Wuttke.

Treble for Priest in Youth win

By George Chesterton

Public Schools XI 0
FA Youth XI 5

The FA Youth XI gave a sparkling performance of skilful football at the Bank of England ground, Roehampton. They were on the attack from the first whistle, with Anderson volleying over the bar within a minute of the start. Obi's speed on the right wing was well used. The England Youth winger sent over a string of crosses.

The first goal came after a quarter of an hour when Priest, of Chelsea, gathered the ball in midfield and found the top corner of the net from thirty yards.

The Public Schools came back well and Elliott had a good scoring chance. His shot was parried by Douglas but there was no one to take up the rebound.

The speed and skill of the FA made further goals inevitable. The second goal came from a goalmouth scramble with the ball partly cleared time and again until Anderson seized his chance and volleyed the ball into the top of the net. A minute later Priest again made time to pick his spot and this time shot hard and low into the corner.

Early in the second half when Dawe was checked in the Schools penalty area he pushed the ball back for Priest to chip over Bail for his third goal.

At this stage the Schools produced their best football. Their passes were more accurate and they tested the FA's defence. Tapper put through Elliott, who shot wide and minutes later Stopford, who throughout remained unruffled in defence, ran the ball to Hunter's feet but again the Schools were thwarted by a solid defence.

Bail handled well and it was no fault of his that the fifth and final goal was put accurately past him by Lee a few minutes before the end.

Bearzot and Allodi in clash

WORLD FOOTBALL
Brian Glanville

UEFA's inept decision to let Internazionale off the hook last week, over Apollonius Konijenburg's alleged attempt to bribe the Groningen club's manager, had an interesting echo in Florence. There, Italo Allodi, Inter's Mr Fix It in the good old days of Dezso Solti, and Juventus's general manager when Solti tried and failed to bribe the Portuguese referee to favour them against Derby County in 1973, is up in arms. General manager of Fiorentina now – and chief executive director – slated to return to the Italian Football Federation in 1985, he is inensed by remarks made by his old foe, Enzo Bearzot, Italys team manager, in a magazine interview.

There, Bearzot, who has never forgiven Allodi for his machinations in West Germany, as general manager of the Italian World Cup team, described Allodi as "able but dangerous". He did not want to say more, he pursued, for fear of "poisoning the ambience".

Allodi, famous for his art collection, his generous gifts to journalists and his friendship with referees, is up in arms. At first, it was supposed that Bearzot might be denounced by the Federation's procurator, for calumny. Then it grew clear that as manager of the Italian national team, he was not liable to such procedures.

When Bearzot, who would never attend the Federal Technical Centre at Coverciano (Florence), while Allodi was in charge, showed up there the other day for its twenty-fifth anniversary, Allods did not. Allodi says he is so determined to sue Bearzot that if necessary he will resign from Fiorentina to do so. Sue him for what? Bearzot's words in the circumstances, seem extremely mild. Remember that Bearzot made Allodi's departure from Coverciano a condition of his staying on as Italy's manager. "I can't work with a Brutus at my back," he said.

In Split, tomorrow, Wales's fate will be decided by the Yugoslavs and the Bulgarians. Bulgaria's away record has been so good this season that Mike England, the Welsh manager, has every excuse for optimism. A draw (a likely outcome) would put Wales through: so too would a 1-0 win for Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian side has been rebuilt shrewdly by its manager, Ivan Vutsov with an emphasis on players from Lavski Spartak, though there are still key men from CSKA Sofia such as the powerful centre-back, Dimitrov, a goal scorer at times, and the hard shooting left winger, Stoicho Mladenov.

Missing again from the Yugoslav team will be their own promising right winger, Stojkovic, who came on at half-time in the recent international match against France, and had an excellent game. He is now conscripted by the Army: a familiar Yugoslav story.

Another Yugoslav attacker, Bakota, may be a thorn in the side of Nottingham Forest when they meet Sturm Graz next year in the UEFA Cup. Bakota helped his team qualify against Sportul Bucharest, but then fell so ill that if it seemed he might never play again. He recovered, however, in time to come on as substitute in their third round, second leg, game against Lokomotiv Leipzig: Sturm Graz are no easy team to eliminate.

The other Austrian team in the double header against English clubs is Klub Austria, who play Tottenham Hotspur. Keith Burkinshaw, Tottenham's manager, was interested to hear that the clubs had met before; a memorable summer match in 1951.

Tottenham had just won the League Championship but, without Alf Ramsey, at right back, they floundered at White Hart Lane against a gifted Austrian side, inspired by the great attacking centre-half, Ocwirk. The elegant short passing of the Vienna School was too much for Spurs, who lost 1-0.

In the third round of the UEFA Cup, Austria beat Inter in Vienna, and held out against heavy pressure in Milan, thanks largely to glorious saves by their Austrian international keeper, Koncilia. Prohasaka, a League Championship medallist with Roma last season – and an Inter player the season before – is the chief force in midfield. He is strongly abetted by the Hungarian attacker, Nyilasi, dangerous in the air and clever on the ground.

The third Austrian team involved with British opposition is Rapid Vienna, drawn in the European Cup against Dundee United, first leg in Vienna. Hans Krankl leads the Rapid attack, and now refuses to play for Austria. But the chief threat of goals comes from the clever Czechoslovak veteran, Panenka, and his free kicks.

Roma, drawn against Dynamo Berlin in the European Cup, let Prohaska go to make room for Brazil's Cerezo, now teamed with his fellow international, Falcao. But the Roma midfield has suffered a heavy blow with the loss, through a knee injury, of the lively young Italian international, Ancelotti.

Lazio, who sacked their Argentine manager, Moorone, and appointed the former youth coach, Carosio, last week, did rather better than recently, drawing at home 2-2 with Zico's Udinese. Laudrup, the gifted young Danish forward, who has not been distinguishing himself so far, had an excellent game, Zico an indifferent one, but a last minute equalizer frustrated Lazio and enraged their fans.

The dressing rooms were besieged, the referee had to escape in a car with a police escort. Riot police alone prevented the fans rushing on to the field; while in Florence, fighting outside the stadium after the match left 11 fans badly hurt or stabbed.

Buenos Aires (Reuter) – Fears of a new strike by referees have arisen since nearly 50 people were injured and two Argentine first division matches abandoned in a wave of violence on and off the pitch here.

Sunday's game between Racing Avellaneda and Racing Cordoba was halted four minutes from the end when violent clashes broke out between supporters and police.

The match between Rosario Central and San Lorenzo was also stopped after 86 minutes when the players and referee were pelted with bottles by Rosario supporters whose team were losing 1-0. Seven players had been already been sent off.

Results from overseas leagues

BELGIAN: Anderlecht 4, Waterschei 1; Beringen 1, Standard Liege 3; Malines 1, Antwerp 4; Beerschot 1, FC Liege 1; Courtrai 2, Cercle Bruges 1; Seraing 2, Lokeren 0; Club Bruges 1, Waregem 2; Beveren 3, Molenbeek 0; Ghent 2, Lierse 0.

EAST GERMAN: Carl Zeiss Jena 3, Rot-Weiss Erfurt 0; Magdeburg 1, Karl-Marx Stadt 1; Union Berlin 4, Chemie Leipzig 2; Dynamo Dresden 2, Vorwaerts Frankfurt/Oder 1; Chemie Halle 3, Stahl Riesa 5; Lok Leipzig 0, Dynamo Berlin 4; Wismut Aue 3, Hansa Rostock 1.

FRENCH: Bastia 2, Brest 1; Monaco 2, Metz 2; Paris Saint Germain 0, Laval 0; Auxerre 4, Lens 0; Rennes 1, Nantes 2; Lille 0, Toulouse 0; Nimes 0, Strasbourg 3; Sochaux 1, Rouen 1; Nancy 0, Bordeaux 2; Saint-Etienne 1, Toulon 0.

GREEK: Aris 3, Doxa 1; OFI 3, Egaleo 2; Panserraikos 0, Ask 2; Larisa 2, Apollon Kalamarias 0; Yannina 0, Ethnikos 0; Paok 3, Apollon Athens 2; Panionios 1, Panathinaikos 2; Olympiakos 2, Iraklis 0.

ITALIAN: Avellino 1, Pisa 1; Catania 1, Ascoli 1; Fiorentina 0, AS Roma 0; Juventus 2, Inter Milan 0; Lazio 2, Udinese 2; AC Milan 0, Torino 1; Sampdoria 4, Napoli 1; Verona 0 Genoa 0.

PORTUGUESE: Espinho 0, Benfica 2; Varzim 0, Porto 0; Sporting 5, Aqueda 2; Setubal 3, Rio Ave 0; Guimaraes 2, Braga 0; Portimonense 2, Estoril 0; Salgueiros 1, Farense 0; Boavista 4, Penafiel 0.

ROMANIAN: Politehnica Iasi 0, Olt 0; Chimia Rimnicu Vilcea 1, Dunarea Csu Galati 0; Steaua Bucharest 3, Petrolul Ploiesti 0; Bihor Oradea 3, CS Tirgoviste 0; Baia Mare 3, Rapid Bucharest 0; Arges Pitesti 1, Asa Tirgu Mures 0; Sportul Studentesc Bucharest 0, Jiul Petrosani 0; SC Bacau 1, Dynamo Bucharest 1; Universitatea Craiova 1, Corvinul Hunedoara 0.

TURKISH: Fenerbahce 1, Besiktas 0; Galatasaray 1, Sariyerspor 0; Trabzonspor 3, Sakaryaspor 0; Genclerbirligi 2, Denizlispor 2; Karagumruk 1, Boluspor 0; Zonguldak 1, Adanaspor 3; Adanademirspor 1, Antalyaspor 0; Orduspor 1, Kocaelispor 0; Bursaspor 1, Ankaragucu 0.

ARGENTINE: Nueva Chicago 0, Estudiantes 0; Temperley 1, River Plate 0; Velez Sarsfield 2, Newell's Old Boys 1; Racing 3, Racing Cordoba 4 (abandoned in the 86th minute because of crowd trouble); Rosario Central 0, San Lorenzo 1 (abandoned in the 85th minute because of crowd trouble); Platense 1, Instituto 4; Boca Juniors 2, Huracan 1; Ferro Carril Oeste 2, Union 1; Talleres 1, Independiente 1.

Holders drawn away

Telford United will begin their defence of the FA Trophy with an away tie against Mossley, the losing finalists, in the first round of this season's competition on January 14.

DRAW: Alfreton or Sutton Town v Frickley; Durham v North Shields; Worcester v Nuneaton; Witton v AP Leamington; Bishop Auckland v Grantham; Bangor City v Spennymoor or Ashington; Chorley v Rhyl; Bromsgrove or Stafford v South Liverpool; Gateshead v Horden CW; Boston United v Northwich Victoria; Arnold V Barrow; Runcorn v Alvechurch or Matlock; Mossley v Telford; Whitby v Blyth Spartans; Marine v Scarborough; Altrincham v Kidderminster. Hayes or Barnet v Dartford; Barking v Bromley or Aylesbury; Merthyr Tydfil v Enfield; Yeovil v Wealdstone; Walling or Tooting and Mitcham v Hastings United; Sutton United v Chelmsford; Leytonstone/Ilford v Trowbridge; Weymouth v Hendon; Carshalton v Barrow; Wycombe v Dorchester or Minehead; Dagenham v Fareham; Salisbury or Gloucester v Fisher; Slough v Dulwich Hamlet; Croydon v Bath; Leatherhead or Windsor and Eton v Bishop's Stortford; Hampton or Wembley v Maidstone. (Matches to be played on January 14).

Honouring Raul

Rio de Janeiro (AP) – Some of the greatest names in Brazilian football began to gather here yesterday to honour the veteran Brazilian goalkeeper, Raul, who will retire with an exhibition game today at the Maracaña stadium. Zico, Falcao, Toninho Cerezo and Batista have already arrived from Rome. Local businessmen had raised $1.5m in insurance in order for them to be able to play. Rivelino, a member of the Brazilian team that won the 1970 World Cup, will also play in the "All-Star" team that faces a Flamengo XI.

Palace debt paid

A petition seeking the compulsory winding-up of Crystal Palace Football and Athletic Club was dismissed by consent in the High Court yesterday, Mr Kevin Garnett, treasury counsel, who appeared for the Customs and Excise, claiming £29,125 VAT, told Mr Justice Nourse that the debt and costs had been paid.



Going up: Tim Burford, of England, taking the strain in the squat lift competition at the first world junior powerlifting championships at Miami Beach.

EQUESTRIANISM

Robert Smith on Team Sanyo Alabama head for second place (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Tyteca beats ambitious rivals

By Jenny MacArthur

A fast and stylish round by Ferdi Tyteca on T Soulaiky gave the Belgian rider a well-earned victory in yesterday afternoon's Norwich Union Christmas Cake Stakes at the Olympia International Show Jumping Championships.

Tyteca's fluent round shone out in what was a disappointing class. Ten fences had to be jumped in whichever order the rider chose. Several riders were too ambitious and attempted impossible turns resulting in knockdowns and refusals. Six riders retired.

In contrast, 29-year-old Tyteca from Antwerp rode a smooth and well thought out course, making his winning time of 38.95 seconds look easy.

Tony Newbery from Devon who is on the Olympic short-list, took second place on Mrs Duckworth's Maguire Esquire, and Derek Ricketts, the last of all to go, on R & S Price Limited's Tradition put up a determined challenge to finish third in 42.23 seconds.

Steven Hadley, who combines showjumping with television commentating was one of the few other riders to produce a stylish clear. He partnered Team Trimoco's Rubber Ball, formerly ridden by the late Caroline Bradley.

Earlier, the Radio Rentals Mince Pie Power and Speed Class also fell to a foreign rider when Switzerland's Thomas Fuchs snatched the £550 first prize from the hands of Robert Smith on Team Sanyo's Alabama. Smith's time of 23.47 seconds had remained the winning one until Fuchs, the third last to go, threw caution to the wind and, going flat out, clipped a second off Smith's time.

Geoff Glazzard, from Staffordshire, scored a double on Sunday when he won the Norwich Union Christmas Cigar Stakes having earlier taken first prize in the Zero Stakes. On both occasions he rode the Dutch-bred Apollo, the horse which earned Glazzard more than £8,000 at the Horse of the Year Show in October.

In Sunday night's class John Whitaker on Mrs C. H. Newton's Blue Moon was the early leader. Their time of 47.50 was not beaten until Glazzard, going towards the end, produced the kind of inspired round which brought him his success at Wembley. They finished two seconds faster than Whitaker.

Harvey Smith, still suffering from a virus infection put up a fine challenge on Sanyo Galaxi. They were up on Glazzard's time but a pole down at the penultimate fence put them out of the running.

The only other threat came from Australia's Jeff McVean on Hello Le Val, the winner of the British National Championships in July. They banged fence four hard but it stayed in place and they went on to finsh third in a time of 49.55 seconds.

Immediately after the class David Broome led his great partner Philco into the ring to the tune of Men of Harlech for the official retirement of the American-bred horse, who earned more than £200,000 in prize money during his spectacular career.

In a moving tribute Philco's formidable catalogue of victories was read out before the saddle was formally removed to mark his retirement. There were tears in the eyes of Ronnie Massarella, the British team manager. "That was a good horse for me", he said afterwards, remembering those great years in the late 1970s

Norwich Union Christmas Cake Stakes: 1, T Soulaiky (F Tyteca, Bel) 0 in 38.95; 2, Maguire Esquire (T Newbery) 0 in 40.55; 3, Tradition (D Ricketts) 0 in 42.23.

Radio Rentals Mince Pie Power and Speed: 1, Itosc (T Fuchs, Switzerland) 23.47; 2, Alabama (R Smith) 24.45; 3, Towerlands Fire Fox (M Pyrah) 24.53.

Norwich Union Christmas Cigar Stakes: 1, Apollo (G Glazzard) 0 in 45.50; 2, Blue Moon (J Whitaker) 0 in 47.50; 3, Hello Le Val (J McVean, Aus) 0 in 49.55.

BASKETBALL

Kingston dismiss two US players

By Nicholas Harling

American players come and go nowhere more so, it seems, than at Kingcraft Kingston. The first division club, who parted company with two players from the United States last season, have dismissed two more.

Tom Broderick, a 6ft 8in centre from New Jersey and Milton Ellison, a 6ft 2in guard from Oklahoma, were told after Saturday's game with Austin-Rover Sunderland that they were no longer required. Last season the departure of Ray Price from Kingston was followed by that of his replacement, John Wiley.

Jim Guymon, Kingston's American coach, has wasted no time bringing in replacements from California. Two forwards, Gary Hopkins, 6ft 7in, from the University of Santa Clara, and Kevin Lucas, a renowned 6ft 4in marksman from California Polytechnic, should be ready for Kingston's opening game in the new year. Neither has been seen by Guymon, who after acting on the information of his contacts in the States, admitted: "It's a gamble, but we're losing and the sponsors are unhappy."

Guymon simply lost patience with the pair he has released. "They've had some atrocious games," he said. "They're good people, nice people, and they get along with the other players, but I'm not happy with their leadership qualities or their ability to score the big baskets when it really counts. We can't be happy with our record" (Kingston have won nine games and lost 11 this season. "It's too inconsistent."

Guymon was particularly unhappy with the off-the-court attitude of Broderick and Ellison, who live together near the club's court Tolworth. "They're lazy and just sit around the house all day watching television. Neither guy works hard enough and I won't tolerate that. They should have been working on their game. The gym is always available, but they seemed to tire of playing."

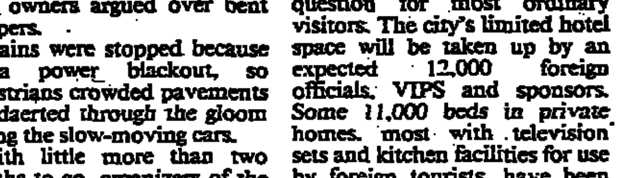
Both players were given a three-week ultimatum by Guymon – impress or else. Broderick explained: "He laid it on the line but he put a lot of pressure on us and I think he's made a mistake. He's a second-year coach and he has showed his inexperience. A coach should instil confidence in his players but he never did that with me. To cut your American players in mid-season can do more harm than good." Guymon replied: "I warned the guy, I threatened him, and really I should have got rid of him six weeks ago."

Ellison seems likely to join Sporting Belfast, and Kingston are trying to fix Broderick up with another Irish club. Both excelled on Saturday but their efforts obviously came too late. Broderick scored 24 points and Ellison 20 in the 78-77 defeat by Sunderland in overtime.

Kingston led 31-27 at the interval but at the end of a fluctuating second half Brandon put Sunderland ahead by sinking a basket that even Kingston conceded had beaten the final buzzer. The officials disagreed and the game went into the extra five minutes, Sunderland hanging on to win, even though Kirkham committed a foul right on time. Had his offence been any earlier, Kingston might have won from the free throw line.

Blue Nun Crystal Palace, 84-75 winners over John Carr Doncaster, were also surprisingly taken to overtime, but the only unexpected result at the weekend in the National League, sponsored by Wimpey Homes, was the defeat of Davenports Birmingham by lowly Brighton Bears.

Shortcomings for spectators at Winter Olympics



Hazards in store at Sarajevo

Sarajevo (AP) – The wailing song of a muezzin cut through the fog, calling muslims to evening prayer. Drivers hooted in frustration as two cars blocked a narrow street while their owners argued over bent bumpers.

Trains were stopped because of a power blackout, so pedestrians crowded pavements and daerted through the gloom among the slow-moving cars.

With little more than two months to go, organizers of the 14th Winter Olympics say this Balkan city is fully prepared for an expected onslaught of visitors to the Games, which begin on February 7.

Whether all goes smoothly or not, athletes and spectators can expect a package of sights, sounds and tastes completely different from anything at the previes 13 Olympics.

Hotel rooms are out of the question for most ordinary visitors. The city's limited hotel space will be taken up by an expected 12,000 foreign officials, VIPS and sponsors. Some 11,000 beds in private homes, most with television sets and kitchen facilities for use by foreign tourists, have been contracted. Fifteen thousand spectators are expected.

Despite power-cuts this autumn, organisers say Sarajevo will be spared them during the games. Most Yugoslavs have suffered them as authorities try to conserve scarce fuel supplies.

Quality film is hard, if not impossible, to find. "It would be a good idea to carry a few reserve rolls," Pavle Lukac, spokeman for the organising committee, warned. Western-style coffee is also scarce, and most restaurants serve a blend that tastes of cereal substitutes. A livelier alternative is Turkish, the thick, black concoction served sweet and strong

Foreign travellers should also be prepared for delays in changing money. Owing to the quantity of paperwork in banks, exchange transactions can take more than half an hour. Petrol rationing and closed filling stations are a persistent nuisance for drivers in Yugoslavia, but Lukac says all stations in the republic of Bosnia–Herzegovina and Sarajevo, the capital, will be operating.

However, the advice to people who plan to drive to the games: Don't. Main roads in and around Sarajevo will be closed to private cars. Parking spaces are already scarce, and the roads leading to Sarajevo can be dangerous even in the summer months. The Zagreb-Belgrade road used by most motorist coming from the North, is known locally as "suicide road" because of its heavy traffic and high accident rate.

IN BRIEF

Only Kenya's best will do

OLYMPIC GAMES: There will be no "joy-riders" in Kenya's team for the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, only athletes likely to win medals, the Minister for Culture and Social Services, Kenneth Matiba, said. For financial reasons there would be a maximum of 75 in the party.

RUGBY LEAGUE: The Rugby League Council will require all professional coaches to be qualified through a national coaching scheme from the start of the 1986-7 season. They are following the example of Australia and New Zealand, where coaching is regarded as a science.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Avoriaz	60	65	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	–5
New snow some powder							
Davos	25	50	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	+2
More snow needed							
Grindelwald	5	50	Icy	Varied	Closed	Fine	0
More snow needed							
Kitzbühel	10	60	Fair	Crust	Poor	Thaw	+4
Lower slopes worn in places							
Mürren	45	60	Fair	Powder	Fair	Fine	0
Recent snow but more needed							
Tignes	20	100	Good	Fair	Good	Fine	–3
New snow on good base							
Val d'Isère	50	100	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	–2
Powder on hard base							
Verbier	10	60	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	+3
New on worn base							
Wengen	15	30	Poor	Varied	Fair	Fine	+3
More snow needed							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U
Wildschoenau	30	70
Good snow conditions.		

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

National Association: Los Angeles Lakers 122, Portland Trail Blazers 115; Denver Nuggets 122, New Jersey Nets 118; Golden State Warriors 99; San Diego Clippers 97.

Eastern Conference
ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia 76ers	18	5	.783	–
Boston Celtics	20	7	.741	–
New York Knicks	16	10	.615	3½
New Jersey Nets	12	12	.500	6½
Washington Bullets	12	13	.480	7

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee Bucks	15	10	.600	–
Atlanta Hawks	12	13	.480	3
Detroit Pistons	11	13	.458	3½
Chicago Bulls	8	14	.364	5½
Cleveland Cavaliers	8	19	.296	8
Indiana Pacers	5	19	.208	9½

Western Conference
MIDWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah Jazz	16	10	.615	–
Dallas Mavericks	15	10	.600	½
Denver Nuggets	12	13	.480	3½
Kansas City Kings	11	13	.458	4
San Antonio Spurs	11	16	.407	5½
Houston Rockets	10	15	.400	5½

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles Lakers	16	7	.696	–
Portland Trail Blazers	18	9	.667	–
Golden State Warriors	13	14	.481	5
Seattle Supersonics	12	13	.480	5
Phoenix Suns	10	15	.400	7
San Diego Clippers	8	19	.296	10

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Edmonton Oilers 7, Winnipeg Jets 5; Boston Bruins 5, Chicago Black Hawks 1; Buffalo Sabres 3, Vancouver Canucks 2; Philadelphia Flyers 3, Detroit Red Wings 3; Pittsburgh Penguins 3, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; Washington Capitals 5, Los Angeles Kings 0.

Wales Conference
PATRICK DIVISION

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
New York Islanders	22	9	2	150	112	46
Philadelphia Flyers	18	10	5	148	117	41
New York Rangers	17	12	4	133	130	38
Washington Capitals	16	16	2	116	121	34
Pittsburgh Penguins	7	21	5	102	136	19
New Jersey Devils	7	23	2	93	145	16

ADAMS DIVISION

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Boston Bruins	21	9	2	148	97	44
Buffalo Sabres	20	10	4	134	120	44
Quebec Nordiques	17	14	3	155	127	37
Montreal Canadiens	15	16	2	124	126	32
Hartford Whalers	11	15	3	108	123	25

Campbell Conference
NORRIS DIVISION

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Minnesota North Stars	15	12	4	142	138	34
Chicago Black Hawks	14	18	2	119	133	30
St Louis Blues	13	15	4	130	137	30
Toronto Maple Leafs	12	15	5	134	151	29
Detroit Red Wings	10	18	4	109	137	24

SMYTHE DIVISION

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Edmonton Oilers	24	7	3	202	137	51
Vancouver Canucks	14	16	3	136	137	31
Calgary Flames	12	14	5	111	127	29
Winnipeg Jets	11	17	4	137	157	26
Los Angeles Kings	10	18	6	141	165	26

INDIANAPOLIS: United States 2, Soviet Union 6.

FOR THE RECORD

RACKETS

The Public Schools Championships: The Jim Dear Cup (under 15): Semi-final: J I Longley (Tonbridge) bt S A Ross (Harrow), 15-1, 15-7, M G Lewis (Rugby) bt W R D Waghorn (Wellington), w.o. Final: Longley bt Lewis 15-0, 15-4. The Incledon-Webber Cup (under 16): First round: R C H Bruce (Wellington) bt D B White (Clifton), 10-15, 15-5, 15-5; R Sage (Clifton) bt A J Clarke (Charterhouse), 15-4, 15-4; J Hall (Haileybury) bt A M Searle (Malvern), 15-14, 15-8; J Palmer (Clifton) bt W J Naunton (Charterhouse), 15-5, 15-2; P Huxtable (Wellington) bt J P Howard (Eton), 15-4, 15-6; P P Angus (Harrow) bt H J Harrison (Radley), 15-8, 15-2; C M Hue Williams (Eton) bt R S Brown (Rugby), 15-2, 15-6; A Stahl (Haileybury) bt C A Cunningham-Reid (Eton), w.o.; J R Rawes (Malvern) bt J J Vacher (Marlborough), w.o.; P D S Manson (Radley) bt A J Spence (Winchester), 15-6, 15-12; A J E Vincent (Charterhouse) bt D Ferguson (Malvern), 1-15, 15-3, 15-7; A W Seddon (Harrow) bt B D Troughton (Winchester), 15-9, 15-1. Second round: Bruce bt Sage, 15-6, 15-2; Palmer bt Hall, 15-8, 18-16; Huxtable bt Angus, 15-9, 17-16; Stahl bt Hue Williams, 15-3, 12-15, 15-6; Manson bt Rawes, 15-12, 18-16; Seddon bt Vincent, 15-1, 15-9. Renny Cup: First round: A J Ramsay (Charterhouse) bt W Grey (Haileybury), 15-9, 15-2; S O'N Segrave (Harrow) bt N S Bryant (Marlborough), 15-9, 15-4; J Symonds (Haileybury) bt A N Paterson-Moutrey (Winchester), 15-12, 15-4; A C Crichton-Stuart (Eton) bt C Lindsay (Rugby), 15-5, 10-15, 15-11; A R Bishop (Clifton) bt M Smyth-Osbourne (Eton), 15-4, 15-8; R Boddeck (Haileybury) bt A G Y Scott (Clifton), 15-7, 15-4; A P F Jeavons (Malvern) bt J Dean (Winchester), 15-7, 15-4; D M Hannaford (Rugby) bt J B Coburn (Tonbridge), 15-10, 15-4; S C Buckland (Clifton) bt N Fallowfield (Marlborough), 15-8, 15-11; D J D Martin (Rugby) bt R J Willett (Radley), 15-4, 15-6; R J Allen (Charterhouse) bt A H F Gordon (Wellington), 15-11, 7-15, 15-7; J M Braybrooke (Clifton) bt P J Jakobi (Malvern), w.o.

SKIING: AUSTRIANS CANNOT SEE THEIR WAY TO A WORLD CUP COMEBACK

A double triumph for brave Swiss

Val Gardena, Italy (Agencies) – Pirmin Zurbriggen and Martin Hangl brought Switzerland the first two places in a World Cup super-giant slalom here yesterday. It was the second successive victory for the Swiss team in this resort within 24 hours – on Saturday, Urs Raeber had won the men's downhill event.

It was Zurbriggen's first World Cup victory of the season and the third of his career. It gave him an undisputed lead in the overall World Cup with 97 points.

Austrian skiers, routed by the Swiss in Sunday's downhill, did better than on the previous day, but again failed to win. The Olympic champion Leonard Stock, who was third, led seven Austrians in the top 15.

Zurbriggen, who has proved the most versatile skier in the super-giant slalom since this event was introduced as an experiment in 1981, took some risks and nearly fell on the upper part of the Saslong track. Nevertheless, he recorded the best intermediate time and a winning total of 1 min 35.33 sec.

The Super-giant slalom was transferred here because of bad weather at Campiglio but conditions in Val Gardena were also terrible. Rain and snow limited visibility severely.

After his victory, Zurbriggen said: "That was the most difficult super-g I've ever raced, particularly in view of the snow which kept sticking to the goggles."

Victory yesterday has improved Zurbriggen's chances of gaining additional World Cup oints out since results here are combined with the results of a special slalom now scheduled to take place in Madonna di Campiglio on Tuesday.

Zurbriggen has made considerable progress in slalom recently and was surprisingly placed fourth in Courmayeur last week. Hangl's achievement was perhaps the greatest of all, because he finished only 43 hundredths of a second more than Zurbriggen despite starting in fiftieth place. It was his best race of the season.

Stock was also surprised after gaining third place and said he had not expected such a good showing. He lagged 1.30sec behind the winner, but led his team colleagues, Hans Enn and Guido Hintercseer.

In tomorrow's slalom at Madona di Campiglio, the absence of the American twins, Phil and Steve Mahre, who have returned to the United States until after the new year in protest at the state of the snows in Europe, the Swedes, Ingemar Stenmark and Stig Strand, are expected to dominate. Stenmark, who – like Mahre – dislikes the super-giant slalom refused to race here yesterday.

RESULTS: 1, P Zurbriggen (Switz), 1min 35.33sec; 2, Martin Hangl (Switz), 1:35.76; 3, L Stock (Austria), 1:36.63; 4, H Enn (Austria), 1:36.72; 5, G Hinterseer (Austria), 1:36.79; equal 6, A Wenzl (Liech), 1:07 04, F Heinzer (Switz). British placings: 66, M Bell 1:42.52; 75, F Burton, 1:43.52.

OVERALL: 1, P Zurbriggen, 65 pts; 2, H Enn, 49; 3, J Franko (Yugo), 38; 4, M Julen (Switz), 33; 5, M Hangl, 27.

WORLD CUP: 1, P Zurbriggen, 97 pts; 2, Franz Heinzer (Switz), 87; 3, Urs Raeber (Switz), 58; 4, A Wenzel, 53; 5, T Brooker (Can), 50; 6, H Enn (Austria), 43.



Zurbriggen: coped with terrible conditions to win his first World Cup event of the season

RACING: MORE MONEY FOR THE MIGHTY MAC

Francome closes title gap with a well-tuned Winter trio

By Michael Seely

John Francome's spate of winners continued to flow unabated at Leicester yesterday. The reigning champion jockey landed a treble for the second time in four days by winning on Emperor Charles, Dickie Murray and Usurping. With 55 winners to his credit Francome is now only 12 behind John O'Neill in the race for the jockey's title. At the close od play this superb horseman's tally was eight winners from his last 11 mounts.

All three winners were trained by Fred Winter, who has now had 34 successes this season and who at present holds a narrow lead over Michael Dickinson as far as prize money won is concerned.

Emperor Charles experienced no difficulty in beating Batchworth by four lengths in the Haig Whisky Novies Qualifier. Francome made nearly all the running on the seven-year-old who went clear of his rivals on the run in.

Emperor Charles runs in the colours of R. E. A. Bott, Wigmore Street Ltd. The refrigeration firm has also been successful this season with Musso and Admiral's Cup, the only other two horses they have in training with Winter. Musso won at Newbury in October and Adniral's Cup followed up a victory at the same meeting by beating Prideaux Boy in that exciting finish to the H. S. S. Hire Shops Hurdle at Ascot on Saturday.

Francome and Winter's other two winners both started at 2-1 on in the first and second division of the Christmas Tree Novices Chase. Dickie Murray, a faller in his previous race at Wincanton, wore blinkers for the first time and sprinted eight lengths clear of his opponents on the flat. Francome was also pleased with Usurping, who was making amends for his defeat by Sutton Place at Hereford, in the second division. "he jumped very well for a baby." – said the jockey afterwards.

The victorious combination's only defeat of the afternoon occurred when Neat finished seventh behind Ole Faithful in the Ivy Handicap Hurdle. Owned and trained by Tony Leighton, Ole Faithful was giving his jockey Brian Powell his fourth victory of the season.

The other feature on a rainy afternoon at Leicester was the sight of Steve Smith Eccles riding the 400th winner of his career. After producing a typical power-packed finish, the jockey drove Last Argument past the post a short head in front of Mount Oliver in the Harry Holmes Memorial Chase. The runner-up's jockey, Peter Scudamore, objected to the winner for taking his ground after the last fence, but his protest was overruled.

In the London offices yesterday all the money in the King George VI Chase continued to be for The Mighty Mac. Michael Dickinson's impressive winner of Ascot's SGB Chase at Ascot last Saturday was backed from 6-1 to 4-1 with William Hills. Ladbrokes, who laid The Mighty Mac at 8-1 over the weekend, have cut the price of this brilliant jumper to 4-1. However, Wayward Lad, last year's winner, is a firm favourite – top priced at 7-4 – as he prepares for his attempt to give the Dickinson family their fifth consequtive triumph in Kempton's Boxing Day feature.

Bregawn, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner and the champion trainer's third possible runner, is generally on offer at 7-2.

At Folkestone this afternoon Francome can continue to blaze his trail of success by winning the second division of the Aldington Novices Chase on Landing Board. At Huntingdon at the end of November Peter Harris's five-year-old showed plenty of courage when beating River Rhein by two lengths in a similar race. Landing Board may now prove too good for Brave Hussar and Claude Monet.

The best bet at the meeting could well be Corn Street in the first division of the Stanford Novices Hurdle. John Bosley's five-year-old is a more than useful handicapper on the flat as he showed when defying 10 st at Goodwood in May. Corn Street showed plenty of promise for the future when fourth to Harford on his only appearence over hurdles at Warwick recently and can now show the benefit of that experience by accounting for Claudius Crozet and Seabattle.

● Get Out Of Me Way continues to attract support with the sponsors for the Coral Welsh National and is now 4-1 from 5-1. Lasobany, second at Kelso yesterday, has been cut two points to 14-1, and Burrough Hill Lad, who runs at Lingfield tomorrow, remains 3-1 favourite.



Francome: eight winners from eleven mounts

ADVANCE GOING: Tomorrow: Worcester good to soft; Lingfield hurdles heavy; chases soft.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Pete Rocket, Steer Point, Tino, Needwood, Jack Fuller, Come To Hand, La Tango, Deaney's Delight.

Folkestone

GOING: soft

11.45 ALDINGTON CHASE (Div I: novices: £1,066: 2m) (10 runners)

2	220212	JOHN BRUSH (C) (Mrs N Goulandris) J Gifford 5-11-5	R Rowe
4	0000-11	SIR EAMON (D) (Mrs L Clay) T Clay 6-11-5	J Lovejoy 4
7	03t04t	CITY MONEY (M J Smith) M Smith 9-11-0	Mr T Grantham 7
12	p40200-	GIN GAME (Mrs A Upsdell) D Weeden 6-11-0	J Francome
13	1-43404	GLENJADE (N Wheeler) N Wheeler 8-11-0	Mr N Wheeler
15	1012-00	HATTAN (G Yarrow) P Mitchell 5-11-0	R G Hughes
17	3tp03t	IRISH PAGEANT (T King) W King 9-11-0	T Williams 7
21	002-t02	ROCK SAINT (G Gregson) G Gregson 6-11-0	G Newman

[illegible]

12.15 STANFORD HURDLE (novices: £518: 2m 110yd) (20)

[illegible]

12.45 "NO SILVER" HURDLE (novices: £518: 2m 5f) (18)

[illegible]

1.15 ALDINGTON CHASE (Div II: novices: £914: 2m) (9)

[illegible]

Evens Landing Board, 4 Brave Hussar, 6 Nepcote, 7 Ten Bears, 8 Gay Tent, 10 Claude Monet, 14 others.

1.45 SELLINDGE HURDLE (selling handicap: £920: 2m 110yd) (15)

[illegible]

9	00-0040	THE DOWNS (A Robbins) D Jermy 7-11-8	G Old
10	00p0-00	STAR OF SALFORD (F Landrigan) J Long 5-11-6	M Perrett
11	111p00	SCOT BENNETT (B) (N Upson) G Ripley 5-11-6	P Upson
14	000pp-0	ESSAM (D Dye) D Wilson 5-11-5	R Hughes
15	4u220p/	BOYNE HILL (Mrs L O'Neill) O O'Neill 7-11-5	J Suthern
18	224p-00	HAYWIRE (B) (M Keegan) M Keegan 9-10-12	J Akehurst 4
19	0030-40	MILITARY CROWN (R Hall) P Allingham 6-10-9	M Hammond 4
21	0001f0-	CAPTAIN EZRA (B) (K Fraher) J Scallan 14-10-7	J McLaughlin 4
23	004002	BLACKBOOSH (J Bosley) J Bosley 4-10-7	Mr M Bosley 7
24	000p/pp	ERNIE'S KEEP (G Carlotti) G Ripley 8-10-7	M Hoad 7

11-4 Blackboosh, 3 Pompous Prince, 4 Scot Bennett, 6 Haywire, 13-2 Military Crown, [illegible]

2.15 HEATHFIELD CHASE (handicap: £1,031: 3m 2f) (14)

[illegible]

2.45 SHADDOXHURST HURDLE (conditional jockeys: handicap: £962: 2m 110yd) (14)

[illegible]

3.15 STANFORD HURDLE (Div II: novices: £518: 2m 110yd) (20)

[illegible]

11	0-24300	GODLY (M Sanderson) Miss A Sinclair 4-11-0	S Johnson
13	023220-	IKOYI SUNSET (G Ellis) S Woodman 4-11-0	J Francome
17		LIBERTY WALK (Miss L Gray) F Gray 4-11-0	G Enright
18		MUSLAB (C Andrews) K Bailey 4-11-0	A Webber
19		NORTHORPE (G Huffer) G Huffer 4-11-0	Mark Rimmer
20	0	TOMMY'S CHOICE (V Nash) J King 4-11-0	J Suthern
21	0	TUDOR JESTER (Mrs E Boucher) J Gifford 4-11-0	R Rowe
23	0	WILY YEOMAN (Mrs H Alwen) J Gifford 4-11-0	P Double
25	03000-0	BRAVE INTENTION (Mrs C Howard) J Ffitch-Heyes 6-10-13	A Madgwick 4
27	0	DAVID'S ISOPON (P P Harrington) H O'Neill 4-10-9	G Newman
28	4-ppp	LINGRETA (B) (Mrs P Townsley) Mrs P Townsley 4-10-9	Mr P Townsley 7
30	0	MYSTIC MARGARET (W Bates) A Hide 4-10-9	J Barlow

3 No-U-Turn, 4 Swift Palm, 5 Bertra, 13-2 Muslab, 8 Tudor Jester, 8 Northorpe, 10 Cordle Spear, 16 others.

Folkestone selections

By Michael Seely

11.45 John Brush. 12.15 Corn Street. 12.45 Work Mate. 1.15 Landing Board. 1.45 Blackboosh. 2.15 Physicist. 2.45 End Of Esa. 3.15 No-U-Turn.

CRICKET: PAKISTANIS SCORE THIRD TOUR WIN

Transvaal squeeze out a win

Johannesburg (Reuter) – The West Indian XI lost their unbeaten tour record when Transvaal defeated them by four wickets in a thrilling finish here yesterday. Needing 93 runs for victory in 25 minutes plus 20 overs, Transvaal did not appear to have too difficult a task; but only 11 balls remained when Jennings cut Moseley to the boundary to score the winning runs.

The West Indian XI, 80 runs behind on the first innings, had been dismissed for 172, with the spinner, Kourie, taking four for 58 and Mitchley adding three wickets to the six he took in the first innings. Only Lynch and Trotman reached 30 for the touring side.

Tight bowling to a packed leg-side field by Clarke and Moseley, who bowled unchanged, reduced Transvaal to 51 for four with 8.2 overs remaining and although two more wickets fell at 74, Rice steered his team home.

SCORES: West Indian XI 230 and 172 (M H A Mitchley 3 for 58); Transvaal 310 for 9 dec and 94 for 6 (C E B Rice 38 not out; S T Clarke 3 for 38, E A Moseley 3 for 49).

TENNIS

NORTH MIAMI BEACH: Invitation tournament: Semi-finals: I Lendal (Cz) bt J Arias (US), 6-3, 6-4; J Connors (US) bt J L Clerc (Arg), 6-3, 6-2.

Tasmania fight boldly to delay inevitable defeat

Hobart (AP) – A bold third-wicket partnership of 171 between Steve Small and Mark Ray failed to save Tasmania from defeat by the Pakistanis on the final day of their four-day match here yesterday. Once the stand between the two former New South Wales batsmen was broken, middle-order resistance slowly crumbled, although the last pair determinedly reduced the margin of defeat to 42 runs.

It was the Pakistanis' third win of the tour, the other two being against South Australia and Victoria, but they were kept in the field for much longer than they expected as Tasmania fought bravely to reach a target of 392.

The main batting honours went to Small, aged 28, whose maiden first-class century it was. He moved from Penrith in Sydney to a Launceston club in northern Tasmania last year. Small took to the Pakistan bowling with a will, giving only one chance at 92 before he was out leg-before to Azeem for 114, having hit 15 fours and one six. Ray gave him good support with a sound 73 scored in 263 minutes before also falling to Azeem, who finished with three wickets for 90.

At 293 for eight and with Boon unable to bat – his arm was in plaster after a blow on the elbow from Azeem in the first innings –

Tasmania's cause looked hopeless; but Williams and Saunders combined to frustrate the Pakistanis with a partnership of 56. Saunders was dropped at third slip by Wasim Raja off Azeem when he was 51 and he had reached 59 when Williams lofted an easy catch to Omar off Qadir. His 26 overs had cost 88 runs for that single wicket.

PAKISTANIS: First Innings 354 for 6 dec (Javed Miandad 141 not out, Salim Malik 90).

Second Innings 272 for 6 dec (Wasim Raja 83, Javed Miandad 54). TASMANIA: First Innings 235 (B F Davison 62).

Second Innings

I R Beven b Rashid	10
M Ray b Azeem	73
P M Clough c Ashraf b Azeem	13
S M Small lbw b Azeem	114
*B F Davison c Ashraf b Rashid	19
S L Saunders not out	59
P Faulkner c Ashraf b Tahir	2
†R Soule b Tahir	0
P A Blizzard lbw b Tahir	12
N F Williams c Omar B Qadir	22
D C Boon absent hurt	0
Extras (b14, lb4, w2, nb5)	25
Total ( )	349

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–31, 2–50, 3–221, 4–230, 5–255, 6–262, 7–262, 8–293, 9–349.

BOWLING: Azeem 22-4-90-3; Rashid 26-9-68-2; Tahir 19-3-59-3; Salim 4-0-28-0 (Bowlers' analyses include no-balls and wides)

GOLF

Faldo gets the vote as top player

Nick Faldo has been voted Golfer of the Year in the annual poll of the Association of Golf Writers. Faldo won five events on the European circuit in 1983 and topped the money list, becoming the first player to break through the £100,000 barrier, and he is given the award as the man who did most for European golf this year.

Other highlights of his year included retention of his players card in the United States and mainstay of the Ryder Cup team against America. Faldo polled a substantial number of votes to finish ahead of the US Masters champion, Severiano Ballesteros, and Tony Jacklin, the outstanding captain of the Ryder Cup team.

He will receive his award at the association's annual dinner at St Andrew's during Open Championship week next July.

Faldo: writers' choice

Rules are clarified

The Royal and Ancient are to clarify the rules governing amateur status from April 1 next year. Then an amateur will lose his status if he enters into an agreement with a sponsor or professional agent.

This change has been prompted by an allegation that an agent, representing a prominent amateur, attempted to win "sponsors invitations" into future PGA tour events. They were then given options to sign the player when he turned professional because of favours given.

The new rules will also specify that amateurs may not be used as gambling objects in an auction.

Glassware will be added to the prizes of symbolic value which may be accepted by amateurs, but there is no intention to increase the prize limit from the present £150.

The age qualification of 22 for the receipt of expenses will no longer apply.

ICE HOCKEY

Captain who sees Hand as a '£1m player'

By Robert Pryce

Overcoming a spate of injuries and suspensions and an indifferent start to their British League premier division season, Murrayfield Racers have won their past five games. Tony Hand scored four goals as the Edinburgh team won 11-5 in Nottingham on Saturday and two goals in a 5-1 win over Cleveland on Sunday.

While Murrayfield's bigger guns – Sobkowich (twisted knee), Lynch (chipped ankle) Lawrie Lovell (broken ribs) – have all spent some time out of action this season, Hand has taken over as the club's leading marksman. In 18 games this season the young centre has scored 27 goals and assisted on 22 others.

He is only 16, but already used to extravagant praise. "He has such a hockey brain," his captain, Derek Reilly, has said. "If he was a footballer he'd be worth a million pounds."

His coach, Alex Dampier, put a different value on Hand. "He definitely has the talent to do well in Canadian or US college hockey."

In the meanwhile, Dampier gives his young protégé lunch-hour classes among the figure skaters at Murrayfield.

Now that the Murrayfield injured have mostly recovered, they probably welcome the coming holiday less warmly than some of their rivals. Dundee have once again nursed their slender manpower resources through a debilitating schedule to the top of the league, sponsored by Heineken.

Ayr are second after gaining a 4-4 draw in Streatham, despite the depredations inflicted on all their defencemen. Wells and McHaffie were absent through work, Watt and Brennan played with a damaged knee, and a delicate stomach, respectively.

Streatham suffered too, although feverish finishes brought them three points from their two home games. With 26 seconds to play on Saturday, they were a goal down and a man short against Ayr, but still contrived an equalizer through Andrew. On Sunday they were 4-5 down to Fife before goals in the third-period from Stefan and Cloonan brought them their first win in five games.

Solihull Barons will lead the first division over the holidays with the help of two big wins over the weekend: their player-coach, Barry Skrudland, scored nine goals in the 16-2 rout of Richmond Flyers. But the table will have to be adjusted now that Bristol Blackhawks are withdrawing from the league. They had been temporarily supported by a marketing company, Ian Wight Sponsorship, but were crippled by lack of organization, funds and playing success.

Ian Whight came to the rescue with £2,500 in September, when it appeared that the newly formed club would not get off the ground, but was unable to obtain sponsorship. "Two things worked against us – an uncompetitive performance on the ice and the fact that there are two soccer clubs in Bristol, both run very efficiently, who have mopped up most of the penny-ante sponsorship," Mr Whight explained. He calculates that the club cost his company a total of £6,124.

PREMIER DIVISION: Cleveland 5, Dundee 12; Nottingham 5, Murrayfield 11 (A Hand 4, Lynch 3); Streatham 4, Ayr 4; Dundee 9 (Halpin 4), Whitley Bay 4; Durham 9 (Crapper 3, Tilley 3). Nottingham 3; Murrayfield 5, Cleveland 1, Streatham 6 (Stefan 4), Fife 5.

FIRST DIVISION: Blackpool 10, Solihull 15; Peterborough 22, Grimsby 1; Solihull 16, Richmond 2; Southampton 6, Altrincham 2.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dundee Rockets	12	10	0	2	116	65	20
Ayr Bruins	12	9	1	2	92	66	19
Streatham Reds	13	8	2	3	82	65	18
Durham Wasps	14	8	1	5	113	96	17
Murrayfld Racers	11	7	1	3	77	55	15
Notts Panthers	15	6	1	8	90	107	13
Fife Flyers	13	4	1	8	80	77	9
Whitley Warriors	13	2	1	10	61	132	5
Cleveland Bombs	13	0	0	13	58	126	0

IN BRIEF

Club to help minority sportsmen

A multi-sports clubith the aim of boosting Britain's so-called "minority" sports has been launched.

The committee of the newly-formed International Sportsmen's Club meet early next month to formulate their priorities.

Among the items for discussion will be the problems of finances, development of coaching techniques and facilities, sponsorship, and the need to maintain contact between the various sports, from grass roots to international level.

Sarah Parker, the modern pentathlon, and one of the prime movers behind the scheme, stressed: "We're not setting ourselves up in competition with establishe bodies, but hope to work hand in hand with them. We have long felt there was a call for this sort of body to help give "minor" sports in this country a much-needed boost, and we're confident this new club can succeed."

TABLE TENNIS: Carl Prean, who has withdrawn from the English Open Championships at Brighton Centre from January 26-28, will be able to play should he change his mind.

Prean, the 16-year-old Isle of Wight schoolboy who was ranked as England number one until yesterday, features in the draw, which had already been made before the official notification of his withdrawal had been received.

BOXING

Honeyghan title chance

Lloyd Honeyghan, of Bermondsey, who retained his British welterweight title two weeks ago, is the next challenger for the European championship, held by the Frenchman Gillis Elbilia.

Honeyghan rose through the ranks rapidly to capture, earlier this year, the British title vacated by Welshman Colin Jones, who is pursuing world ambitions.

The European Boxing Union have turned down the application on behalf of Clinton McKenzie for the light welterweight title, however. McKenzie, who held the title until losing it earlier this year on a disqualification, and holds a world ranking, has been passed over, and the opportunity goes instead to Gomez Foux, of Spain.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

European Super Cup, second leg
Aberdeen (0) v Hamburg (0)

Milk Cup, fourth round
Birmingham v Liverpool

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor v Runcorn.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Gainsborough v Mossley; Morecambe v South Liverpool.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedworth v A.P. Leamington, Fisher v Gosport. Midland: Bridgnorth v Moor Green.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby v Sheffield United (7.0), Manchester United v Leeds (7.0), Sheffield Wednesday v Everton (7.15). Second division: Blackpool v Wigan (7.0), Bradford City v Coventry (2.0), Chesterfield v Notts County, Oldham v Barnsley (7.0), Rotherham v Preston (7.0).

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Fulham v Arsenal (2.0), Swindon v Bristol Rovers (7.0).

FA TROPHY: Third qualifying round: Bromley v Aylesbury; Hampton v Wembley; Hayes v Barnet. Replays: Welling v Tooting and Mitcham, Stafford v Bromsgrove, Matlock v Alvechurch, Gloucester v Salisbury.

ESSEX SENIOR CUP: Third round: Clapton v Chelmsford; Walthamstow Avenue v Harlow.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Cup, third round: Bishop's Stortford v Metropolitan Police. Premier division: Hendon v Billericay; Hitchin v Slough; Staines v Bognor Regis; Worthing v Dulwich Hamlet. Second division: Finchley v Southall; Grays v Corinthian-Casuals; Horsham v Egham; Leyton Wingate v Dorking; Farnham v Tring; St Albans v Ware.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Blackpool v Bolton (7.0).

MIDWEEK LEAGUE (2.0): Cambridge United v Peterborough; Portsmouth v Bournemouth.

ESSEX THAMESIDE TROPHY: Barking v Leytonstone.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Nottingham v RAF (7.15).

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Salford v St Helens.

OTHER SPORT

RACKETS: Public schools singles championship (Queen's Club, 9 am).

Yesterday's Results

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Chelsea 1, Watford 2

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA Youth XI 5 Public Schools XI 0. Public Schools 1; XI 2, Berkshire Schools XI 3.

Ludlow

GOING: good

12.0 BURGUNDY CHASE (Div I) (novices: £840: 2m) (12 runners)

[illegible]

12.30 AMONTILLADO HURDLE (selling handicap: conditional jockeys: £518: 2m) (9)

[illegible]

1.0 RUM PUNCH HURDLE (Div I) (3-y-o: £483: 2m) (18)

[illegible]

28		ZE AVATAR (S Crowden Consultants) M Chapman [illegible]	[illegible]
29	22	AMBER WINDSOR (D Lorrimer-Roberts) 10-2	[illegible]
32		HIGHDRIVE (J Barber) R Holder 10-2	[illegible]
34	F3	PADDYS BELLE (Mrs P Tucker) D Tucker 10-2	[illegible]

7-2 Grundy Glow, 4 Erngal, 5 Nestor, 6 Admirals Ruler, 7 [illegible] Windsor, 16 Paddys Belle, 20 others.

1.30 BURGUNDY CHASE (Div II) (novices: £838: 2m) (12)

4	02-1F3	THE COUNTY STONE (Mrs A Taylor) J Thorne [illegible]	[illegible]
6	0F0-00	BERGHILL (J Humphreys) W Jenks 7-11-4	[illegible]
11	000/000	GLEN MOY (M Barraclough) M Barraclough [illegible]	[illegible]
15	00/FP30-	HOPE AGAIN (G Small) G Small 6-11-4	[illegible]
17	0F00-04	MOSSY MOORE (B Chinn) B Chinn 7-11-4	[illegible]
19	0000-04	MR MYND (G Buckingham-Bawden) J S Wright [illegible]	[illegible]
22		PRINCE BUSKINS (M Hill) R Frost 6-11-4	[illegible]
23	F2332-3	ROMANY NIGHTSHADE (R Steed) T Forster [illegible]	[illegible]
25	0-00	SYLVA MOON (Mrs R McKenzie-Coles) W McKenzie-Coles [illegible]	[illegible]
27	P4P3-00	THE CLEAVER (E Burfield) D Gandolfo 7-11-4	[illegible]
31	0-00330	DISHCLOTH (Lady S Brooke) Lady S Brooke [illegible]	[illegible]
36	04B00-0	WEALTHY (M Low) M Scudamore 7-10-13	[illegible]

2 The County Stone, 3 Dishcloth, 4 Romany Nightshade, [illegible]

2.0 RUM PUNCH HURDLE (Div II) (3-y-o: £483: 2m) (18)

2		ATAMAN (M Pipe) M Pipe 10-7	P Leach
7		FLYING PALACE (Mrs B Van Gelder) T Forster 10-7	H Davies
11		HEATHER PRINCE (D Thornton) A W Jones 10-7	K Whyte
12		KUWAIT BEACH (Sheik Fahad) D Lang 10-7	K Mooney
15	40	NO BUTTS (C Perks) R Hollinshead 10-7	J O'Neill
16		PENLLYNE TROOPER (Penllyne Haulage Ltd) Mrs M Rimell 10-7	S Morshead
17	02	RANT AND RAVE (Roldvale Ltd) J Jenkins 10-7	–
18		RIG STEEL (R Robbins) P Cundell 10-7	P Richards
19		RULER ON A LARK (J Spielman) J Edwards 10-7	N Madden
20		SEAGRAM (D Barons) D Barons 10-7	J Frost
22		SPANKING (I Maddocks) I Maddocks 10-7	C Jones
23		SWEEP UP JACK (M Churches) M R Churches 10-7	P Murphy 4
24	0	TOMMY TROUBLE (A Stroud) A E Stroud 10-7	E C Mann 4
29		CELTIC SAGA (J Fenlon) J Fenlon 10-2	–
30	F	CHALET WALDEGG (A Clapperton) D Gandolfo 10-2	M Richards 4
32	0	IRISH CORN (Mrs A Carey) D Carey 10-2	M Williams
33		LEARCTIC (C Raymond) J Thorne 10-2	P Scudamore
34		LO JUNCTION (W Whiston) W Whiston 10-2	Mrs K Dickin 7

4 Penllyne Trooper, 9-2 Ataman, 5 Rant And Rave, 6 Flying Palace, 8 Kuwait Beach, 10 Chalet Waldegg, 12 No Butts, 14 Seagram, 16 others.

2.30 VINTAGE PORT CHASE (handicap: £1,276: 3m) (14)

1	303-04P	SOINTULLA BOY (C) (Mrs H Houlbrooke) Mrs H Houlbrooke 8-12-3	Mr T Houlbrooke
6	320FPP	COOLAFANCY (CD) (M Henriques) M Henriques 12-11-8	Mr A J Wilson
7	1/FUU1F	DROPS O'BRANDY (D) (Mrs C Fairbairn) J Edwards 8-11-6	P Warner
8	1001-00	SPACED OUT (L Phipps) T Bailey 8-11-3	E Brooks
9	1FF0-12	CELTIC BREW (Major F Phillips) Mrs M Rimell 8-11-3	S Morshead
11	10-2220	LAURENSUN (C) (Mrs C Black) M Oliver 8-11-2	Mr J Weston
15	31-F112	ANOTHER PLATER (D) (I Steers) P Bailey 8-10-9	R Strange
16	1440-3P	MINT STREAK (P Oliver) Mrs E Kennard 7-10-8	P Richards
17	02P82F	STATE RUN (C) (M Low) M Low 8-10-5	Mr M Low
18	30-01U2	LETTERBOX (E Witts) E Witts 8-10-5	C Mann
20	1220-0	APPLEJO (D) (B Chinn) B Chinn 7-10-3	J Goodwin 22
	22301F10-	BELOW THE SALT (M Allsopp) T Forster 7-10-1	H Davies
23	030-200	BALLYSPILLANE (D) (M Bradstock) F Walwyn 9-10-0	Mr M Bradstock 7
27	422/403-	ABIATA (D Davies) P Ransom 11-10-0	–

3 Celtic Brew, 7-2 Another Plater, 4 Below The Salt, 6 Laurenson, 7 Ballyspillane, 8 Letterbox, 10 State Run, 14 others.

3.0 CLARET HURDLE (handicap: £1,192: 2m) (20)

5	00-P000	SALTHOUSE (DB) (R Turvey) A Barrow 8-11-7	Lorna Vincent
6	00-0203	SEA PENNANT (D) (I R Jones) I R Jones 7-11-5	C Evans 7
8	1/10120-	UPPER NOTE (D) (A Twine) T Forster 5-11-5	H Davies
9	4013/0-1	JOHNS PRESENT (D) (P Dening) R Holder 5-11-4	P Richards
10	3101-00	ELSELL (CD) (J Smith) M Eckley 8-11-4	J O'Neill
11	21P31F	BROTHER SLANEY (J Eaton) J Eaton 7-10-13	R Pusey 7

[illegible]

Ludlow selections

By Michael Seely

[illegible]

Leicester results

Going: Chase Course: Good to Firm. Hurdles: Good.

12.30 CHRISTMAS HURDLE (Selling handicap: £733: 2m)

LONGCLIFFE, b or br g, by Mandamus – Pepin (K Stone) 8-11-2 .... J. Davies (4-1) 1
Satchmo .... M Bowlby (14-1) 2
Hard Bargain .... G Charles-Jones (7-2 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £6.30. Places: £1.20, £14.10, £1.70. DF: (first or second with any other). £8.70 CSF: £58.17 Tricast: £203.00. K. Stone at Malton. 10l, ¾l. Thumps (20-1) 4th. 16 ran. NR: Kano Hill, Wise Man, Charity Run.

1.0 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (qualifier) (Novices: £1,422: 2m)

EMPEROR CHARLES, b g, by Menelek – Romp (R. E. A. Bott Wigmore St Ltd) 6-11-0 .... J. Francome (8-1) 1
Batchworth .... Mr J White (11-4) 2
Falkland Hero .... G. McCourt (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £21.60. Places: £7.20, £1.60, £1.10. DF: £17.80 CSF: £29.84. F. Winter at Lambourn. 4l, hd. Deep Impression 15-8 fav. Pommardy (33-1) 4th. 24 ran ran. NR: Critic.

1.30 HARRY HOLMES CHASE (Handicap: £1,182: 3m)

LAST ARGUMENT b g, by No Argument – Last Dew (C Snow) 9-10-12 .... S Smith Eccles (5-1) 1
Mount Oliver .... P Scudamore (2-1) 2
Cash In Hand .... A Webber (15-8 fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.10. Places: £1.10, £1.00, [illegible]

[illegible]

Kelso

[illegible]

THE DIVIDER b g by Leander – Devet (J Aitken) 5-10-13 .... J O Gorman (6-1) 1
Faldor .... D Johnston (8-1) 2
Adam Craig .... C Bell (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £10.40. Places: £3.60, £1.00, £7.30. DF: (winner or 2nd with any other) £2.20. CSF: £52.99. Tricast: £280.66. Mrs T Calder at Duns. 2½l, 3l. Pohjola (4th). Camborne Hill, Arpal Conquest 5-1 jt-favs. 11 ran. Nr: Starlight Rocky.

12.45 GATTONSSIDE NOVICE CHASE (Novices: £933: 2m 6f)

FOX-U-More br g by New Brig – Wynsomamore (Mrs M Nisbet) 6-11-13 .... T G Dunn (11-4 fav) 1
Park Tower .... D Nolan (7-1) 2
Veiled City .... B Storey (7-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.90. Places: £1.20, £1.80, £3.50. DF: £16.30. CSF: £23.47. K Oliver at Hawick. 4l, 5l. Welfare (9-1) 4th. 15 ran.

1.15 NEW BRIG HURDLE (Hoechst Regumate Qualifier) (Novices: £910. 2m 4f)

JOE'S FANCY ch g by Apollo Eight – Scarlet Sal (P Liddle) 5-11-0 .... G W Gray (14-1) 1
Young Ash Lin .... A Brown (3-1 jt favs) 2
Raby .... M Barry (16-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £17.40. Places: £5.60, £5.00, [illegible]

[illegible]

LITTLE FRENCHMAN [illegible] – Morning Sun (E Robson) 10-10-0 .... Mr D Browne (10-1) 1
Lasonby .... P Tuck (4-1) 2
Twiflight .... C Hawkins (12-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.20. Places: £1.00, £1.00, £4.50. DF: £15.30. CSF: £51.62. Tricast: £462.16. E Robson at Morpeth. 4l, 6l. [illegible] Here 7-4 fav. Three To One (12-1) 4th. 14 ran.

2.15 BIRGHAM HURDLE (novices: £756: 2m)

COLONEL ROSE b g by Rez – Rose Marie (T Goldie) 6-11-3 .... Mr J M Dun (9-1) 1
Thorbell Arch .... S Charlton (6-1) 2
Arpal Dambuster .... N Doughty (11-8 Fav) 3

TOTE: Win: £9.50. Places: £1.90, £2.90, £1.30. DF: £18.80. CSF: £56.70. T Goldie at Kilwinning. Nk, 25l. Mr Denelop (16-1) 4th. 22 ran.

2.45 ST BOSWELLS CHASE (Handicap: £[illegible]: 2m 198yd)

DUSKY DUKE br g by Dusky Boy – Da Capo (Charlotte Lady Reay) 8-10-13 .... R Lamb (9-1) 1
Beamwam .... P Tuck (15-8 Fav) 2
Saint-Munn .... J O'Neill (33-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £3.40. Places: £1.00, £1.00. DF: £7.80. CSF: £8.32. W A Stephenson at Bishop Auckland. 1½l, 5l. Royal Radar (100-30) 4th. 5 ran

PLACEPOT: £56.45.

هكذا من الأصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; the day's television previewed at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.35; Diana Moran's star tips, cookery hints from Glyn Christian and Alison Mitchell's money matters, all between 8.30 and 9.00.
9.00 Training Dogs the Woodhouse Way. In lesson eight Mrs Woodhouse has advice on Show Handling (r). 9.25 Arthur Negus at 80. A celebration of the antiques guru's birthday last March (r). 10.15 Cartoon: Tom and Jerry. 10.30 Play School, presented by Chloe Ashcroft (r). 10.55 Closedown.
12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). 1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes Christmas music from the English Chorale with Barbara Courtney-King. 1.45 Gran (r). 1.50 Stop-Gol (r).
2.00 Day Out. Gwyn Richards visits Acton Scott Working Farm Museum, near Church Stretton in Shropshire. 2.30 Lucky Luke. A full-length animated film about the exploits of a mild-mannered gunman. 3.40 Goldilocks and the Three Bears. 3.53 Regional news (not London).
3.55 Play School. 4.20 The Adventures of Bullwinkle and Rocky. Part one of the cartoon serial, The Last Angry Moose. 4.25 Jackanory. Jan Francis reads part two of Peter Pan. 4.40 Wuffer. The last episode of the comedy series about a dog warden. 5.05 Newsround. 5.10 Record Breakers. The last of the series and among the items is Roy Castle auctioning the biggest turkey.
5.40 Sixty Minutes includes national news from Moira Stuart at 5.40; regional news magazines at 5.53; weather at 6.15; and closing news headlines at 6.35.
6.40 Angels. Edward is taken, reluctantly, to dinner with Chris and Tracey while Vicky says goodbye to her favourite patient.
7.05 Harty. Russell with Julie Walters, Victoria Wood and Hot Gossip.
7.40 No Place Like Home. Comedy series about a middle-aged couple whose grown-up children decide to return to the nest.
8.10 Dallas. The Oil Barons' Ball ends in fisticuffs when Cliff Barnes insults the dead Jock within earshot of the Ewings.
9.00 News with John Humphrys.
9.25 Orwell on Jura. A drama documentary about George Orwell's retreat to Jura to write Nineteen Eighty-Four. Starring Ronald Pickup as Orwell and Fiona Walker as Avril Blair. Written by Alan Plater (see choice).
10.55 Perry Como's French-Canadian Christmas Special. The crooner in festive mood with guests Debby Boone, Canadian folk singer Diane Tell, Olympic ice-skating champion Dorothy Hamill; pianist Andre Gagnon and the V'la L'Bon Vent Troupe.
11.45 News headlines and weather.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. A review of the morning papers at 6.25; news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, and 8.30; sport at 6.35 and 7.40; exercises at 6.45; John Stapleton with a topical guest in the Spotlight at 7.05; The search for the Star of Bethlehem continues at 7.35; Christmas shopping with Paula Yates at 7.45; pop video at 7.55; inside Sheila Steafel's house at 8.05; Christmas hamper awards at 8.15; Gyles Brandreth's video report at 8.35; and the cooking clerics at 8.50. 9.00 Roland's Winter Wonderland.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street in which the Muppets make learning seem fun.
10.25 M.G.M.'s Big Parade of Comedy. A nostalgic compilation of some of the best films made at the studios before 1947. Among the many stars appearing are Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, W. C. Fields, the Marx Brothers and Laurel and Hardy. The narrator is Les Tremayne. 11.50 Cartoon Time: Popeye takes Olive to the Abusement Park (r).
12.00 Portland Bill. Puppet adventures of a lighthouse keeper. 12.10 Sounds Like a Story. Mark Wynter with the tale of The Frog King and the Moon. 12.30 The Sullivans.
1.00 News with Leonard Parkin. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Film: The Prince and the Pauper (1977) starring Oliver Reed, Raquel Welch, George C. Scott and Charlton Heston. Period adventure about a young pauper boy who changes places with Prince Edward, the son of Henry VIII. Directed by Richard Fleischer. 3.30 Sons And Daughters.
4.00 Portland Bill. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 The Razzmatazz Christmas Special. A pop-packed edition featuring, among others, Eurythmics, Spandau Ballet and The Police. 4.45 CBTV News, views and ideas for young people. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm. Beckindale's Christmas concert turns out to be full of surprises.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.
6.20 Help! Community action news from Viv Taylor Gee.
6.30 Crossroads. Diane Hunter has a request refused by Denise Paget.
6.55 Reporting London presented by Michael Barratt. There is a profile of Monsignor Bruce Kent by reporter Michael Wilson who asks Mgr Kent how he reconciles his church role with his work as the CND general secretary.
7.30 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity mime game chaired by Michael Aspel.
8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. His guests are American comedian Nelson Sardelli, singer Grace Kennedy and, presumably with his tickling stick, Ken Dodd.
9.00 Once Upon a Murder. The third and final part. It is now 1962 and a black man, Tyler Watts, is appointed chief of police (continues at 10.30).
10.00 News.
10.30 Once Upon a Murder continued.
11.20 Cher at Caesar's Palace. Highlights of a concert given by the glamorous performer at the famous Las Vegas night spot.
12.25 A Different Christmas. Gillian Reynolds talks to someone who will be enjoying a non-traditional Christmas.



Alice Faye and Don Ameche in Hollywood Cavalcade: Channel 4 9.00pm.

● Getting in first before the welter of Orwells is upon us in earnest, the BBC has chosen Orwell's period of self-imposed exile in the Hebrides as the subject of a fascinating drama documentary. ORWELL ON JURA (BBC1 9.25pm) The uncannily look-alike Ronald Pickup stars as the weary Orwell, troubled by tuberculosis, who arrives at Barnhill, a remote, spartan, farmhouse on the northernmost tip of Jura, in the hope that the seclusion and clean air of the place after the throngs and grime of blitzed London, will improve his failing health. He is recently widowed and is joined by his sister Avril who takes over the duties of housekeeper. The petty arguments that seem to be part and parcel of setting-up house are neatly done, but it is the tensions created by the arrival of

CHOICE

Orwell's two-year-old adopted son, Richard, and his nanny, Susan Watson, that are captured brilliantly, as one would expect from the experienced pen of author Alan Plater. Orwell's relationships with the islanders, especially the new neighbour who takes a shine to Avril, are neatly observed, but it is the performance of Pickup as Orwell, chain-smoking himself to death as he writes Nineteen Eighty Four, that sets the high standard of this film – a film that other offerings on the subject will be pushed to equal.

● In Peter Glidewell's ST URSULA'S IN DANGER (BBC2 7.05pm), his sequel to Schoolgirl Chums, which was repeated last night, his heroine, that all-round good egg, Alison Dayne, is now in the sixth form. Set in the 1930s, Glidewell has skilfully caught the period and in Charlotte Long as Alison, has the perfect prefect. Tonight's tale has everything the traditional Girl's Own stories ever contained – a mysterious gypsy, crumpets for tea, the handsome, heroic, cousin on his motorbike, ghosts, nice and nasty teachers and an unfathomable American philanthropist, the owner of the estate neighbouring St Ursula's. Ian Keill's direction produces a number of good performances from the girls, but the acting honours go to Barbara Bolton as the strict Miss Prosser and Doreen Mantle, the soft Miss Cowley. All good, clean, fun without ever entering into the realms of farce.

BBC 2

4.00 Film: Mr Lucky* (1943) starring Cary Grant, Laraine Day and Charles Bickford. Grant is the uncharacteristic role of, to begin with, the villain. He plays an unscrupulous gambling boss plots to defraud an American War Relief society but eventually sees the error of his ways when he falls under the spell of a young socialite. Directed by H. C. Potter.
5.35 News summary with subtitles.
5.40 Rockschool. The final programme of the series designed to help the hopeful rock musician. Crossover styles are the subjects this week and Deirdre Cartwright (guitar), Geoff Nicholls (drums) and Henry Thomas (bass) illustrate the different varieties. With comment from Nile Rodgers, Carl Palmer, Sarah Lee, Andy Gill.
6.05 Gymnastics: In Search of Excellence. Highlights of the World Championships in Budapest in which 20 of the gymnasts achieved the perfect mark of ten. The stars of the programme are Ecaterina Azabo of Rumania and Natalia Iourchenko of the Soviet Union who, between them, scored nine perfect marks.
7.05 Play: St Ursula's in Danger, by Peter Glidewell. A follow-up to Mr Glidewell's Schoolgirl Chums, repeated yesterday, about the pupils and staff of a girls' school during the 1930s (see Choice).
8.10 Bookmark presented by Simon Winchester. There are reviews of Kenneth Rose's biography of King George V and The Last Diary of Oscar Wilde, written by one of *The Times'* television critics, Peter Ackroyd. In addition, Fay Weldon considers who actually wins from the numerous Literary Awards presented each year while Patchy Wheatley examines the world of children's books.
9.00 Film: Rollerball (1975) starring James Caan. The first showing on British television of a film, set in 2018 in a world that has been rid of poverty, sickness and war. The most popular game is the extremely violent Rollerball – a cross between football and hockey. Directed by Norman Jewison.
11.00 Out of Court. David Jessel and Sue Cook present the last programme of the series. There is a film report on a US mid-West prison that allows prisoners to phone out – something the Prison Officers Association in this country are against. There is also news of an anti-drink and drive play performed by the Cambridge Police Force.
11.30 News.
11.35 Greek – Language and People. The tenth and final part of the modern Greek language course (r). Ends at 12.05.

CHANNEL 4

4.45 Film: The Balloonatic* (1923) starring Buster Keaton. Trick photography at its early best with Buster, at the climax, on a 1,000 foot high waterfall. Directed by Buster Keaton and Eddie Cline.
5.15 Years Ahead A magazine programme for the older viewer. There are items on the Christmas steam train at Bo'ness, run by the Scottish Railway Preservation Society; pop singer Kim Wilde appears with her two grandmothers and they talk about their attitudes to each other; and in the archive spot there is a recording of King George VI's 1939 Christmas Broadcast to the nation.
6.00 The Sports Quiz with Steve Davis. The second semi-final.
6.30 Utopia Limited. The final programme in the series that examines how the world could be made to work more efficiently and fairly. In previous programmes it has been shown that the poorer countries are caught in a poverty trap. Tonight Sandra Naidoo and David Tereschuk attempt to find out if there is any way out for these depressed countries.
7.00 Channel Four News includes the first showing of a previously unknown Hitchcock documentary. It was commissioned in 1945 by Sidney, now Lord, Bernstein.
7.50 Comment. With his personal view of a subject of topical importance is Stephen Bayley, director of The Boilerhouse Project for industrial design.
8.00 Brookside. Marie Jackson is called to hospital when George receives a facial injury.
8.30 4 What It's Worth. Joan Shenton finds counterfeit goods at a market; Penny Junor interviews Consumer Minister, Alex Fletcher; and David Stafford has news from Which? magazine about what to do when your pipes burst.
9.00 Film: Hollywood Cavalcade (1939) starring Alice Faye and Don Ameche. A love story told around the silent film era of Hollywood with Ameche as an ambitious but penniless prop boy who leads promising actress Molly Adair into believing that he is a film director. Directed by Irving Cummings.
10.50 Black on Black. A special Christmas edition moves from the studio to exotic Notting Hill Gate where Darcus Howe reports on the area. Black playwright Carol Phillips talks about the 19th Century actor Ira Aldridge and there is also a report on the thousands of African children in Britain who will be spending Christmas in care. For light relief there are the London Community Gospel Choir and black impressionist, Beverly Nisbeth.
12.00 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary. 6.45 Prayer. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.20 Your Letters. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411. Family Trees.
10.00 News; From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Morning Story: "The Gift" by Bernadette Quinn. Read by Frances Quinn.
10.45 Daily Service†.
11.00 News; Travel; Thirty-Minute Theatre: "The Lady and the Double-Bass Case" adapted for radio from a short story by Anton Chekhov. With James Bryce, Moir Leslie, and Geoffrey Collins (narrator).
11.33 Wildlife.
12.00 News; You and Yours.
12.27 My Word!†. 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World At One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. How super are our supermarkets? asks Jenny Cuffe. Also, the fifteenth instalment of The Ladies of Lyndon.
3.00 Afternoon Theatre: The Girl in the Corner, by Howard Wakeling. Brenda, bored, overweight and 21, decides that the only answer is to take up a career as a female wrestler. Her boyfriend, Kevin, cannot stand violence of any kind. With Annette Badland, Stuart Organ and Carole Boyd†.
4.00 News; Just After Four. Roger Worsley on music hall recording pioneers.
4.10 Prefaces to Shakespeare. The Comedy of Errors. Roger Rees's personal view.
4.40 Story Time: "The Shepherd" by Frederick Forsyth (2). Read by Tony Britton.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News.
6.30 Radio Active's ChristmasTurkey†.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now. A report on the health of medical care.
7.50 It Was a Dark And Stormy Night on the Bookshelf... Second part of a selection of some of the best ghost stories sent in by Bookshelf listeners.
8.05 Dear Kath. A portrait of Kathleen Ferrier, one of the best-loved singers of the century. Presented by Peter Orr.
9.05 In Touch. Magazine for the visually handicapped.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.30 Instant Sunshine ... reasonably together again (last of 6). The guests are WASOt.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Ask Mama" by R S Surtees (12).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.
ENGLAND, VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 1.55pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Enjoying Opera (6).

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Part one. Schubert (overture Der vierjahrige Posten), Mendelssohn (octet, Op 20), C P E Bach (Symph in E major, Wq 182, No 6).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert. Part two. Triebensee (Wind Partita in E flat), Chopin (Polonaise in C sharp minor, Op 26, No 1: Lazar Berman, piano), and Elgar (concert overture: In the South (Alassio)), Op 50.†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Stravinsky. Sonata, 1925 (Michel Beroff, piano), Three Japanese Lyrics (Phyllis Bryn-Julson, soprano), Pribaoutki (John Shirley-Quirk, baritone), Elegy, and Suite: The Soldier's Tale.†
10.00 Beecham Conducts Delius: The Royal Phil play the Florida Suite: Dance Rhapsody No 2.†
10.50 A Ceremony of Carols: The great Britten work is performed by the boys of Christ Church Cathedral Choir, Oxford, with Osian Ellis (harp).†
11.20 Violin and Piano; recital by Maureen Smith (violin) and Ian Brown. Part one. Debussy's Sonata in G minor, and Beethoven's Sonata in G, Op 96.†
12.10 BBC Philharmonic Orch in Gratz: with Raphael Wallfisch (cello). Part one. Brahms's Tragic Overture, and Elgar's Cello Concerto.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert: part two. Alexander Goehr's Deux etudes; Strauss's Symphonic Poem Death and Transfiguration.†
1.55 Laurie Randolph: guitar recital. Works by Torroba and Gaspar Sanz.†
2.15 Bach and Bruckner: Bach's Chorale Prelude on Valet will ich dir geben, and the Prelude and Fugue in E flat major, BWV 552; and Bruckner's Symph No 8.†
4.00 Capricorn: Schubert's String Trio in B flat, D 471; and the Quintet in A, D 667.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Roy Williamson's selection includes Haydn's String Quartet in D, Op 64, No 5; and Walter Piston's The Incredible Flutist.†
6.30 Padre Antonio Soler: Harpischord recital by Gilbert Rowland. The works include the Sonata in B minor, R 10; Sonata in E minor, R 26; and the Sonata in C major, R 71.†
7.00 Red Beans and Rice in Paradise: Russell Davies explores the delights of New Orleans cuisine, such as Gumbo, Crawfish Pie and Oysters Rockefeller. Contributors include local restaurateurs, chefs, waiters, and writers of books on New Orleans food such as Richard and Rima Collin.
7.30 Ravel and Varèse: David Atherton conducts the BBC SO at the Royal Festival Hall. Part one is all-Ravel. Rapsodie espagnole, Concerto for piano (left hand) with soloist Paul Crossley; and Bolero.†
8.20 King Boris's Dilemma: Dr Richard Crampton of the University of Kent argues that, by playing on the pro-Russian sentiments of his people, King Boris of Bulgaria retained a large measure of independence in his dealings with Hitler and saved Bulgarians from many of the pangs of war.
8.40 Ravel and Varèse: Part two. Varèse's Ameriques, and Ravel's La valse.†
9.35 Medici String Quartet: Peter Maxwell Davies's Little Quartet No 1, and Mozart's Quartet in D minor, K 421.†
10.15 Orlando Gibbons: Music recorded in Westminster Abbey, played by Musica Antiqua of London Viol Consort, with the Choir of Westminster Abbey. The organist is Christopher Herrick.†
11.00 The Complete Webern: with Robert Tear and the BBC SO and London Sinfonietta. Works include Siegfrieds Schwert, for tenor and large orchestra, and Schubert orch Webern Six German Dances, D 820.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 9.00). Major bulletins 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines 5.30am, 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 (MF/MW). 5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Music While You Work with Harry Roche Constellation.† 12.30pm Gloria Hunniford.† 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewart.† 3.02 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Hamilton.† 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Dunn†incl 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (MF only). 7.30 The Golden Age of Hollywood. A history of the America movie from 1927 to the early 60s (7) 1939.† 8.30 Folk on 2 with Jim Lloyd.† 9.30 Where Were You in 62? Guests are Joe Brown, Dora Bryan, Keith Fordyce and Judy Geeson.† 9.57 Sports Desk. 10.00 Can I Take That Again? Jonathan Hewart with more clangers, bloopers and fluffs made on radio. 10.15 A Digance Indulgence. A solo show of songs, stories, and humour in the company of Richard Digance. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Big Band Special with The Radio Big Band.† 1.30 String Sound with The BBC Radio Orchestra.† 2.00-5.00 Charles Nove presents You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

News on the half-hour 6.30am-8.30pm and then at 12.00 midnight (MF/MW). 6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell, incl 5.30 Newsbeat. 6.05 Top 40 singles chart. 7.00 David Jensen. 10.00-12.00 John Peel.† VHF Radios 1 and 2 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 With Radio 2.

World Service

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 The Cambridge Buskers. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Pied Piper. 8.30 Motive for Murder. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Alexis Korner's Rhythm and Blues. 10.00 Discovery. 10.30 Musical Milestone. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Time Remembered. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly Good Show. 2.30 Emma. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Sir Adrian Boult: A Life of Music. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 9.15 Letter from London. 9.25 Paperback Choice. 9.30 London Concert Tradition. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland This Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Pied Piper. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Report on Religion. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 The English Air. 2.30 Emma. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Waveguide. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

BBC 1 WALES 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales Headlines. 3.53-3.55 News of Wales Headlines. 5.53 Wales Today. 11.45 News and weather. SCOTLAND 12.55pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 4.40-4.50 The House That Joe Built. 4.50-5.05 A Cheud Turus. 5.53 Scotland: Sixty Minutes. 11.45 News and weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.53 Scene Around Six. 11.45 News and weather. ENGLAND 5.53pm Regional news magazines. 11.50 close.

S4C Starts 2.20pm Ffalabalam 2.35 Citizen 2000 2.05 Outsiders 3.30 Union World 4.00 Good for the First Time 4.55 Pictiwrs Bach 5.05 Bilidowcar 5.30 Buck Rogers 6.30 Sports Quiz 7.00 Newyddion Saith 7.30 Resiq 8.10 Dawn 8.40 Coriannu Pobol 9.20 Prisoner 10.20 Arabs 11.25 Eleventh Hour 12.45am Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: Starts 12.00-12.10pm Portland Bill. 12.30-1.00 It's A Vet's Life. 1.20 News. 1.30 Film: Great Wallendas. 3.30-4.00 University Challenge. 5.15-5.45 Flying Kiwi. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Memorial Flight. 7.00-7.30 Nine to Five. 12.30am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25am Dazzle. 10.50 Wine That Sings. 11.35-12.00 Pine Tree. 12.30pm-1.00 Gardens For All. 1.20 News. 1.30-3.30 Film: Duel At Diablo (James Garner). 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Bygones. 12.25am Talking of Christmas, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TVS As London except: 10.25am Dazzle. 10.50 Christmas Story. 11.10 On Safari. 11.35 Mountain Forests. 11.50-12.00 Christmas Goose. 1.20pm News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 Community Show. 2.10 Country Practice. 3.10 Newsbreak. 3.20 Take The High Road. 3.45-4.00 Guest Of The Day. 5.15-5.45 Starkids. 6.00 Coast To Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am Company, Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 10.25am Dazzle. 10.50 Road to Los Angeles. 11.40-12.00 Santa's Pocket Watch. 12.30pm-1.00 Farmhouse Kitchen. 1.20 News. 1.30 Survival of the Fittest. 2.00 Take the High Road. 2.30 Christmas Memory. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 News. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am Closedown.

HTV As London except: 10.25am Film: Go For A Take (Reg Varney). 11.50-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30pm-1.00 Survival. 1.20 News. 1.30 Film: Magnificent Seven Deadly Sins (Bruce Forsyth). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbillies. 6.00 News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 Wales At Six.

GRANADA As London except: 10.25am Dazzle. 10.50 Daffy Duck. 11.30-12.00 Joanie Loves Chachi. 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Wild Times. 3.15 Flora and Fauna. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Granada Reports. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25am Trapper John. 11.15 Fire of Harmony. 11.40 Abigail. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 12.30pm-1.00 Full Life. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 At Ease. 5.10 Job Spot. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 What's Your Problem? 7.00 Take the High Road. 7.30-8.00 Now You See It. 11.20 Scotsport. 12.05am Benson. 12.35 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 10.25am Film: Gasbag (Crazy Gang) 11.45-12.00 Sally and Jake 1.20pm News and Lookaround 1.30-3.30 Film: Christmas Tree (William Holden) 5.15-5.45 Whose Baby? 6.00 News 6.02 Crossroads 6.25 Northern Life 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm 12.25am Cost of Christmas, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 10.25am Dazzle. 10.50 Story of the Christmas Goose. 11.00-12.00 Christmas at Pops. 12.30pm-1.00 One of the Boys. 1.20 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Against a Crooked Sky (Richard Boone). 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead. Film: MGM's Big Parade of Comedy. 11.50-12.00 Cartoon. 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.30-4.00 Laurel and Hardy.* 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30 Gift at Christmas. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am Gift at Christmas. 12.30 News, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am First Thing 10.25 Dazzle 10.50 Daffy Duck 11.30-12.00 Joanie Loves Chachi 12.30pm-1.00 Question of Stars 1.20-1.30 News 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 6.00 North Tonight 6.35 Crossroads 7.00-7.30 Stovies 11.20 Scotsport 12.05am News. Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 10.25am-12.00 Film: Peter Lundy and the Medicine Hat Stallion. 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: League of Gentlemen* (Jack Hawkins). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 10.25am MGM's Big Parade of Comedy. Compilation. 11.50-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30pm-1.00 It's a Vet's Life. 1.20 News. 1.30 Film: Great Wallendas (Lloyd Bridges). 3.30-4.00 University Challenge. 5.15 Gus Honeybun. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30 Winners All. 7.00-7.30 9 to 5. 12.25am Postscript, Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

New rules proposed for GPs' deputies

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Strict new controls over deputizing services and the use family doctors can make of them to cover night and weekend calls were proposed yesterday by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health.

The changes come after allegations that some deputizing services are substandard and that some family doctors have been making use of the services to take all their night and weekend work.

Under the new rules, doctors in partnerships of three or more would be expected to cover each other's night calls, without recourse to deputizing services. Single-handed doctors, and partnerships of two, would be allowed to display them for a maximum of three nights a week.

The amount of use could be varied to suit local circumstances and the problems of individual doctors, but regular random checks would be made and excessive use would normally be disciplinary matter, the draft circular on the new rules says.

The proposals were greeted as "a great step forward" by Mr Christopher Hawkins, Conservative MP for High Beak, who has been compaigning for tougher controls, but Mr *Michael Lowe*, secretary of the British Medical Association's advisory committee on deputizing services, said that they were "astonishing".

If the new rules were enforced, he said, deputizing services would simply shut down because they would cease to be viable, and general practice in inner cities would collapse.

Many single handed general practitioners in inner cities were elderly and could not cope with being on call four nights a week. "It is just not reasonable to expect doctors to be disturbed through the night and expect them to be able to cope with their patients properly in the morning," he said.

Dr John Ball, chairman of the General Medical Services Committee, said that it made "no sense" to force excessive hours on doctors when society was increasingly concerned that important decisions should not be taken by people who were over tired.



Burnt out case: A PLO fighter watching the cargo ship My Charm blazing in Tripoli harbour. Mr Arafat looks on from a poster.

Arafat ready for evacuation

Continued from page 1

Which raised the little matter of my My Charm. The ship, whose port of registry, Limassol, can still be discerned in the burnt stern paintwork, sailed boldly into Tripoli on Sunday night. Port workers – who are few enough these days but loquacious none the less – suggested that the freighter had docked for the specific purpose of picking up all those heavy guns which Mr Arafat had promised to give to the police.

An emphatic denial came from the PLO leader, although several large trucks can be seen around Tripoli with sacks of rockets all neatly packaged, as if they were about to be transported somewhere.

In human terms, Israel's latest pin-prick harassment of the PLO has done little more than raise fears among the civilian population of Tripoli and increase the anguish of the older PLO men, who are forced to leave their families in Tripoli, just as many of their colleagues did in Sabra and Chatila in the summer of last year.

"*I said goodbye to my family yesterday*", a Palestinian in his late forties said yesterday, as he stood by the harbour wall leaning on a stick. "Then I said goodbye to them today. And now I shall have to do the same again tomorrow."

Other, younger Palestinians sat atop mobile anti-aircraft guns beside the port, waiting for the Israeli gunboats to reappear on the horizon. The sea remained a flat calm, enlivened only by the narrow Moudaouarra islands in Tripoli sound.

At dusk, two blue-funnelled tugboats puttered into the wreckage of the harbour to look for empty berths for the Greek ships, which – so it was rumoured – would arrive at dawn.

The PLO were also worried yesterday that the Israelis might decide to stage air strikes on Tripoli, after their jets had bombed the towns of Bhamdoun and Aley in the Chouf mountains east of Beirut.

The Syrians claimed later that the Israelis had hit one of the Army positions behind Bhamdoun, and had also struck a hospital used by leftist militias.

An Israeli spokesman at the Israeli liaison office north of Beirut claimed that the planes had bombed positions held by Colonel Abu Moussa's Palestinians, Mr Arafat's rivals within the PLO. No comment was made about this in Tripoli; nor was any sympathy vouchsafed for the Colonel's men.

● **WASHINGTON:** President Reagan has said that the US Marines and other troops of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut could be withdrawn next year if Syria gave an assurance that it would pull out its forces from Lebanon and "start the process"

● **Israelis blamed:** The White House yesterday blamed the Israelis for impeding the evacuation of the PLO from Tripoli, and called on them to stop blocking the Palestinians' departure.

Israeli pressure, page 5
Spectrum, page 8

Break with tradition at Marks & Spencer

Continued from page 1

with many new lines. Lord Sieff engagingly admits to having made mistakes, but argues that being able to correct some of them gives even more scope for progress.

It was Lord Sieff who built up the company's food side, in 1955, introducing Britons to quality fresh and convenience foods. The food business now accounts for 38 per cent of Marks & Spencer turnover.

When Lord Rayner took over as chief executive earlier this year, Lord Sieff assured company veterans that the family tradition would continue. Mr Salisse said yesterday: "So it has proved. He is, after all, virtually one of the family. There will be change, inevitably, but it will be gradual."

Lord Rayner, a big jolly man of 57, joined Marks & Spencer in 1953, became a director in 1968 and joint managing director in 1973. He was made joint vice-chairman last year.

But he caused the biggest stir when in 1979 he became the Prime Minister's adviser on improving Whitehall efficiency. By the end of last year when he finished that job – he was made a life peer in the 1983 New Year's Honours – he had left an indelible mark on many Whitehall departments.

Now, after nine months as chief executive, the Rayner strategy for Marks & Spencer is starting to emerge. He is naturally looking for any sign of inefficiency in the company's empire of 262 stores in Britain and is also looking for continued growth abroad.

The company now has eight stores in the EEC, and exports St Michael goods to 30 countries.

There are nearly 200 stores in Canada and the United States will probably be the next expansion area, although there are no plans for that yet.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Despair hangs over the Chamber

Mr Joh Biffen, the Leader of the House, was being questioned yesterday by the Labour back bencher, Mr Tam Dalyell, about leaked secret Whitehall documents when he suddenly made a disclosure about Mr Dalyell.

"As to secrets, I think the House should note that many years ago I sponsored the hon member to be chairman of the Cambridge University Conservative Association", Mr Biffen observed, in that amiable way of his. Mr Dalyell is that tall, slightly wild-eyed, plummy-voiced Scot of gentle birth and good English education who is interested in all known conspiracies.

On the subject for example, of why we sank the Argentine warship, *General Belgrano*, he has shaken off all vestiges of his Conservative past and is an ordinary, respectable extremist. The fact that he was once a Conservative has long been well known. It has always been ascribed to youthful low spirits.

His membership of the party has also to be seen in the context of the Cambridge of the early 1950s: that despairing era when young idealists believed that, with the seemingly unstoppable rise of R. A. Butler, conservatism offered the only hope of a seat in Parliament.

What is new about the Biffen testimony however, is the revelation of how significant *Dalyell* was within the Conservative apparatus set up in Cambridge during those morally confused times. It now appears that Mr *Dalyell* was a much more important agent than has hitherto been supposed. He was in the social circle of the young Mr Biffen, and he was sufficiently powerful to be nominated for the Cambridge University Conservative Association chairmanship itself.

No doubt his defence is that, like no many other Old Etonians who in later life become socialists or progressives of one kind or another, he became more extreme once he faced up to the responsibilities of a career.

But it all left a lot of questions unanswered. At what point did he leave the party? To what extent is he still sympathetic to the bourgeois ideology with which the party indoctrinated him? There are grounds for an independent inquiry.

But Mr Biffen's revelation had made us all smile. And smiles were welcome during this particular question time. For we all knew what was coming. And what was coming was the statement by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

These statements after terrible events tells us little that we do not know already.

Mr Brittan described the events at Harrods once again. He paid his respects, and vowed that the terrorists would not profit from this deed. Mr Gerald Kaufman, the chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, shared those sentiments on behalf of his party. Mr Brittan answered questions from all sides. A certain despair hung over the chamber.

This is the despair of people who do not know what to do next. As such it affects a majority on both sides of the chamber, but not the minorities in the House who believe they do know what to do.

These include those on the Labour left who believe that the answer is to move towards a united Ireland, though in some indefined way that does not bring on the massacre of the very Catholics whose cause they espeuse.

There are also the Unionists, including Mr Enoch Powell; some Tories; Dr Ian Paisley. For them the answer is greater "security." But that too is never wholly defined.

But the majority yesterday betrayed no such certitude. In all the questioning only a few lingered in the memory. Mr John Hume, of The Social Democratic and Labour Party, said that as an Irishman he was ashamed and that, if those who planted that bomb were Irish patriots, "then God save Ireland."

The Conservative, Mr Ivan Lawrence, said the Government should ensure that the details of the crime "receives the widest possible circulation in the United States."

What was missing from Mr Brittan and from Mr James Prior, is a sense that the Government knows how to wage the undaunted fight against terrorism which these ministers promise. Their strategy at the moment seems to be that the British should carry on shopping. The Blitz has been evoked. But in the Blitz our leaders sought allies and devised offensives.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the National Playing Fields Association, attends a Royal Gala performance of "Aladdin" at the Shaftesbury Theatre, WC2, 7.35.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Royal Jubilee Trusts and President of the Prince's Trust, visits Greater Manchester; at 11.30 His Royal Highness visits J.E.L. Energy Conservation Services, Ltd, at Bramhall Moor Industrial Park, Stockport, followed by a visit to the West Indian Sports Social Club and Community Centre, 2.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, Patron of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, attends a Carol Concert in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, in aid of the fund, 5.55.

The Princess of Wales opens the New Extra Care Centre at the Abbeyfield Downing House, Swinbourne Grove, Withington, Manchester, 3.30.

Princess Anne attends the Christmas celebration in Westminster Cathedral, 6.55.

Princess Margaret attends the premiere of "The Wind in the Willows", at the ABC Cinema, Shaftesbury Avenue, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which Her Royal Highness is President, 5.50.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester attends *The Observer* Christmas Carol Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, London, 7.20.

Music

Ron Goodwin Christmas Show, with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Guildhall, Portsmouth, 7.30

Carol concert with Norwich Citadel Band, St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, 7.30

General

Antique and Collectors Fair, Beaufort Hotel, Walcot Street, Bath, 11 to 8.30

Last chance to see

Works by Richard Tratt, Tom McArthur, Jill Hutchings, Margaret Hems, Pamela Derry and Richard Constable, Blake Gallery, Georges Lane, Crewkerne, Dorset; Mon to Sat 10 to 4 (ends today).

Exhibitions in progress

Home Sweet Home – an exhibition of Victorian Home Life, Portsmouth City Museum and Art Gallery, Museum Road, Old Portsmouth; Mon to Sun 10.30 to 5.30 (ends Feb 26).

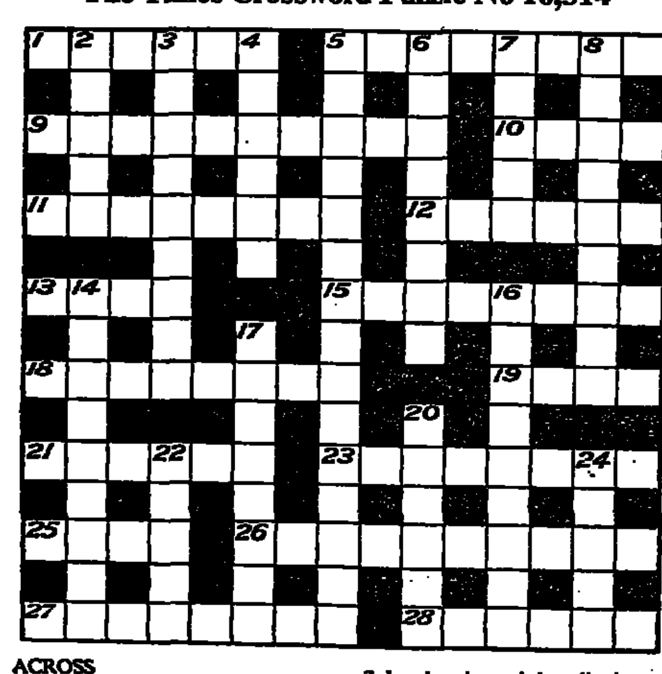
South Yorkshire Open Art Exhibition, Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, Yorkshire, Tues 1 to 5.30, Wed to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Mon (ends Jan 8).

Words and Images from the Lake District; Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde, 22 Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5 (ends Thurs).

What is Conservation?, an exhibition looking at conservation of historic artefacts, James Dun's House, 61 School Hill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Jan 7).

Captains of Commerce; New Irish Ceramics; Tom Carr, retrospective; Aspects of Africa; four simultaneous exhibitions at the Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 1 to 5, Sun 2 to 5, closed 24 to 27 Dec inclusive (ends Dec 31).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,314



ACROSS

1 Tony joins company, but it's unstable (6).
5 Hail causing tears in Scotland (8).
9 Capacity for living (10).
10 Mother Church, sitting target for unruly members (4).
11 The cap to fit her adage, perhaps (8).
12 Publicity for first-class sort of band (6).
13 Dean forced into a study of Arabia (4).
15 Lord knows what sort of thing Tom Brown's garden is! (8).
18 What it really costs to be made presentable at Court? (4,4).
19 Great State highway (4).
21 She encloses note to metre with a synopsis (6).
23 This house is surrounded by trees (8).
25 Sahib, missing Southend, shows inclination to return (4).
26 Spotted butterfly in lily-flower . . . (10).
27 . . . . and going to wild rose at noon for shelter (8).
28 Romp in boat with Ned on the way back (6).

DOWN

2 So one may renew marriage-bond (5).
3 Landseer's work has dignity too (9).
4 This of course is what's to be expected (6).
5 Democratic system for promoting Brigadiers (7,8).
6 Yes, leave out some ointment (3-5).
7 The Romans' fear of the sea (5).
8 Unofficial entitlements for Dartmoor and Holloway (9).
14 Get a sense of this as a matter of course (9).
16 Go out about dusk on the river one by one (9).
17 They stand high in the order of mammals (8).
20 Brook or river Keith bridged (6).
22 She lies awkwardly over last letter of condolence (5).
24 Look after the fish (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,313

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword with an additional set of concise clues will appear in the Saturday section this Saturday.

Anniversaries

Births: John Wilson Croker, politician and essayist, Galway, 1780; Sir Robert Menzies, Prime Minister of Australia 1939-41, 1949-66, Jeporet, Victoria, 1894. Ambroise Paré surgeon, died Paris, 1590.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Health and Social Security Bill, second reading.

Lords (2.30): Roads (Scotland) Bill, committee. Amusement Machines Bill, committee.

Snow reports

The Times service of snow reports, covering skiing conditions at the major European resorts, begins today and will continue until next April. They are published today on page 19.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending Dec 11:

ITV
1 Coronation Street (Wed), Granada, 16.95m
2 Coronation Street (Mon), Granada, 14.85m
2= This is Your Life, Thames, 14.85m
4 Name That Tune, Thames, 14.30m
5 Up the Elephant & Round The Castle, Thames, 14.25m
6 In Loving Memory, Yorkshire, 13.90m
7 Give us a Clue, Thames, 13.20m
8 Crossroads (Tue), Central, 12.80m
9 Cannon & Ball, LWT, 12.65m
10 Family Fortunes, Central, 12.35m

BBC 1
1 The Two Ronnies, 13.85m
2 Noel Edmonds Late Late Breakfast Show, 12.15m
3 Dallas, 11.00m
4 Wildcats of St Trinians, 10.95m
5 Only Fools & Horses, 10.70m
6 Top of the Pops, 10.60m
7 Bergerac, 10.35m
8 Sports Review of the Year, 10.30m
9 Cold Sweat, 10.00m
10 Terry & June, 9.95m

BBC 2
1 The Bob Monkhouse Show, 6.50m
2 Entertainment U.S.A., 4.05m
3 Grange Hill (Wed), 3.95m
4 The Natural World, 3.90m
5 M.A.S.H., 3.50m
6 The Outriders, 3.409m
7 Mansfield Park (Sun), 3.35m
8 Year of the Balloon, 3.30m
9 Grange Hill (Mon), 3.20m
10 Kelly Monteith, 3.15m

Channel 4
1 The Paul Hogan Show, 2.85m
2 Good and Bad at Games, 2.55m
3 Left, Right and Centre, 2.40m
4 Brookside (Wed), 2.30m
5 Brookside (Tue), 1.90m
6 Picture of Health, 1.80m
7 Tell the Truth, 1.60m
8 The World at War, 1.55m
9 The Ghost and Mrs Muir, 1.50m
10 American Football, 1.35m

S4C
In Welsh:
1 Dechrau Canu/ Canmol, religion, BBC, 108,000
2 Pobol Y Cwm, Serial, BBC, 86,0000
3 Rhagin Hywl Gwynfryn, 1 ent, BBC, 96,000
Sion A Sian, quiz, HTV, 86,000
5 Pawb A I Fys, c affairs, HTV, 70,000

In English:
1 Buck Rogers, 157,000
2 Brookside (Wed), 135,000
3 The Munsters, 130,000
4 The Avengers, 121,000
5 Brookside (Thur), 82,000

Breakfast television: The average weekly figures for audiences at peak times (with figures in parenthesis showing the reach – the numbers of people who viewed for at least eight minutes):
BBC 1: Breakfast Time: Mon to Fri, 1.5m (5.2m).
TV-am: Good Morning Britain: Mon-Fri, 1.2m (4.5m), Sat, 1.3m (3.4m).
Broadcasters' Audience Research Board.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.69	1.59
Austria Sch	28.85	27.25
Belgium Fr	84.00	80.00
Canada $	1.83	1.76
Denmark Kr	14.74	14.04
Finland Mkk	8.71	8.31
France Fr	12.32	11.82
Germany DM	4.06	3.87
Greece Dr	160.00	150.00
Hongkong $	11.30	10.70
Ireland Pt	1.30	1.25
Italy Lira	2450.00	2340.00
Japan Yen	350.00	332.00
Netherlands Gld	4.58	4x35x
Norway Kr	11.52	10.92
Portugal Esc	194.00	184.00
South Africa Rd	1.82	1.69
Spain Pta	231.00	221.00
Sweden Kr	12.00	11.40
Switzerland Fr	3.26	3.09
USA $	1.46	1.41
Yugoslavia Dnr	216.00	206.00

Retail Price Index: 341.9
London: The *FT* Index closed 2.8 up at 762.1

Roads

Midlands: A10: Traffic signals at Little Port and on Cambridge to Royston road at Hauxton. **B4194:** Closed between Stourport and Bewdley. **A6:** Traffic signals at Belper, Derbyshire.

Wales and West: A417: Delays, diversions on old A40, St Oswalds Road, Gloucester. **M4:** Lane closures for bridge inspection and repairs between junction 21 and junction 22 across Severn Bridge, affecting both carriageways. **A303:** Temporary lights on Wincanton-Ilminster road at Holton and Sparkford; also Seavington and Ilminster.

North: A66: Single-line traffic and lights on approaches to bridge at Eden Lodge, north-west of Appleby, Cumbria. **A575:** Egerton Street, Farnworth closed near junction with Gladstone Road. **A182:** Lane restrictions along Hetton Road, Houghton, Tyne and Wear.

Scotland: A84: Intermittent traffic control at Laurence Croft, Stirling. **A9:** Intermittent traffic control in Causeway Head Road, Stirling. **A96:** Traffic control 3 miles east of Forres.

Information supplied by AA.

The papers

The *Daily Mirror* asks whether the CBI is aiming to break up the happy home with its defence of the worker taking a two week break over Christmas. It points to an insurance company estimate that the average British Housewife (husband, two children) works 94 hours a week. "That means that over a week she makes 21 beds, cooks and washes up for 28 breakfasts and dinners, and washes and irons two tubs of dirty clothes. If 'himself' is home for two weeks after Christmas will he be doing all that? Will be say, love, you slaved to make Christmas Day happy for me and the kids. Now put your feet up for a fortnight?" It directs any doubters to a report of the Marriage and Family Trust Organization, which says the number of couples seeking help from marriage guidance councils doubles after the Christmas holidays. "The reason, it says, is that problems 'simmering under the surface' rise up when couples are forced together over a long Christmas break. What is the CBI trying to do – break up the happy home?"

'Shoplifters' counsel

Christmas is one of the peak periods for shoplifting; this year, an organization formed to help those accused of such offences is just getting into its stride. It calls itself Crisis Counselling for Alleged Shoplifters and Offers moral support and practical advice to those who may feel they have been wrongly accused. Cases involving children are especially welcome. CCAS is at 39, Brockley Avenue, Stanmore, Middx. Tel. 01-202 5787, 958 8859 (after 7pm) or 346 2182 (messages only).

Weather

Pressure will remain low near Britain with troughs of low pressure crossing some districts.

6am to midnight

London, East Anglia, E, W Midlands: Mostly dry, sunny or clear intervals, outbreaks of rain later; winds S to SE light to moderate; max temp 7 to 8C (45 to 46F).

SE, central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Sunny intervals, showers, with longer outbreaks of rain developing; winds SW backing SE for a time, moderate to fresh; max temp 10C (50F).

E, NW, central N, NE England, Borders: Mostly dry, sunny or clear intervals; winds mainly S light, occasionally moderate; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, S W Scotland: Scattered showers, sunny or clear intervals; winds SW light to moderate; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll: Rain slowly clearing, bright or clear intervals developing; wind mainly E light to moderate; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, rain at times, wind NE fresh locally strong; max temp 5 to 7C (41 to 45F).

Northern Ireland: Rain at first, bright or clear intervals developing; wind SE at first, becoming variable, light; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: continuing unsettled with near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea; Straits of Dover; Wind S fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. **English Channel (E):** Wind S or SW strong to gale, showers; Sea rough or very rough. **St. George's Channel:** Wind SE moderate to fresh becoming variable; Sea slight. **Irish Sea:** wind SE fresh decreasing moderate, sea slight or moderate.

Sun rises: 8.03am
Sun sets: 3.53pm
Moon rises: 4.10pm
Moon sets: 8.35am
Full Moon: 2.00am.

Lighting-up time

London 4.23 pm to 7.34 am
Bristol 4.33 pm to 7.43 am
Edinburgh 4.09 pm to 8.12 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.53 am
Penzance 4.51 pm to 7.48 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	7	45	Guernsey	f	9	48
Birmingham	c	8	46	Inverness	c	5	41
Blackpool	c	8	46	Jersey	f	9	48
Bristol	c	10	50	London	c	10	50
Cardiff	f	9	48	Manchester	r	9	48
Edinburgh	r	6	43	Newcastle	r	6	43
Glasgow	c	7	45	Ronaldsway	r	7	45

London

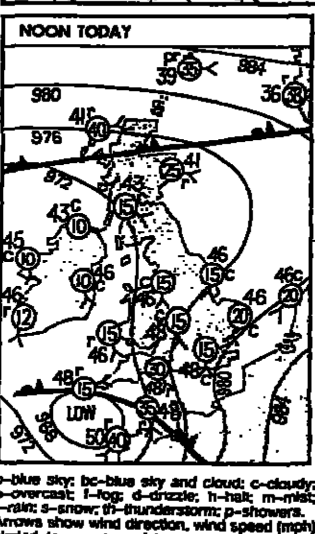
Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 50 (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 81 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.22in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 979.3 millibars rising 1000 Millibars – 29.53 in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Eastbourne, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Aviemore, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Elmdon, 1.26in; highest sunshine: Guernsey, 2.8 hr.

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NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

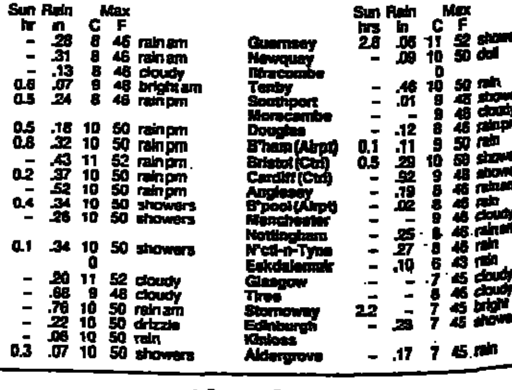
High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.34	6.9	1.49	7.0
Aberdeen	12.55	4.2	1.19	4.3
Avonmouth	7.03	13.0	7.30	13.0
Belfast	10.49	3.5	11.05	3.4
Cardiff	6.48	12.0	7.15	12.6
Devonport	5.40	5.5	6.03	5.4
Dover	10.44	6.5	11.16	6.6
Falmouth	5.10	5.3	5.33	5.2
Glasgow	12.34	4.7	12.41	4.9
Harwich	11.44	4.0		
Holyhead	10.09	5.6	10.30	5.6
Hull	6.07	7.2	6.29	7.2
Ilfracombe	5.44	9.1	6.08	9.1
Leith	2.13	5.5	2.42	5.5
Liverpool	11.05	9.3	11.27	9.4
Lowestoft	9.17	2.5	9.43	2.5
Margate	11.49	4.7		
Milford Haven	6.03	6.9	6.27	7.0
Newquay	4.54	6.9	5.17	7.0
Oban	5.28	4.0	6.01	4.1
Penzance	4.36	5.6	4.58	5.5
Portland	6.50	2.3	7.20	2.2
Portsmouth	11.17	4.7	11.42	4.6
Shoreham	10.59	6.2	11.27	6.2
Southampton	10.49	4.5	11.16	4.5
Swansea	6.07	9.5	6.32	9.5
Tees	3.21	5.4	3.43	5.5
Walton-on-Naze	11.36	4.2		

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	–	.28	8	46	rain am
Bridlington	–	.31	8	46	rain am
Cromer	–	.13	8	46	cloudy
Lowestoft	0.6	.07	9	48	bright am
Clacton	0.5	.24	8	46	rain pm
Margate					
Folkestone	0.5	.18	10	50	rain pm
Hastings	0.8	.32	10	50	rain pm
Eastbourne	–	.43	11	52	rain pm
Worthing	0.2	.37	10	50	rain pm
Littlehmptn	–	.52	10	50	rain pm
Bognor R	0.4	.34	10	50	showers
Southsea	–	.26	10	50	showers
Shanklin					
Bournemth	0.1	.34	10	50	showers
Poole			0		
Weymouth	–	.20	11	52	cloudy
Exmouth	–	.66	9	48	cloudy
Torquay	–	.76	10	50	rain am
Falmouth	–	.22	10	50	drizzle
Penzance	–	.06	10	50	rain
Jersey	0.3	.07	10	50	showers

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	2.8	.06	11	52	showers
Newquay	–	.09	10	50	dull
Ilfracombe			0		
Tenby	–	.46	10	50	rain
Southport	–	.01	9	48	showers pm
Morecambe	–	–	9	48	cloudy
Douglas	–	.12	8	46	rain pm
B'ham (Airpt)	0.1	.11	9	50	rain
Bristol (Ctrl)	0.5	.29	10	50	showers
Cardiff (Ctrl)	–	.92	9	48	showers pm
Anglesey	–	.19	8	46	rain am
B'pool (Airpt)	–	.02	8	46	rain
Manchester	–	–	9	48	cloudy
Nottingham	–	.25	8	46	rain am
N'ctl-n-Tyne	–	.27	8	46	rain
Eskdalemuir	–	.10	6	43	rain
Glasgow	–	–	7	45	cloudy
Tiree	–	–	8	46	cloudy
Stornoway	2.2	–	7	45	bright
Edinburgh	–	.28	7	45	showers am
Kinloss					
Aldergrove	–	.17	7	45	rain

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	r	14	57	Copenhgn	c	3	37	Majorca	f	16	61	Rio de Jan*	f	[illegible]	[illegible]
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Corfu	c	16	61	Malaga	c	17	63	Rome	c	15	[illegible]
Alexandria				Dallas*	c	-5	23	Malta	s	18	64	Salzburg	f	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algiers	c	19	66	Dublin	r	8	46	Melbourne	s	34	93	Sao Paulo*	f	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	c	7	45	Dubrovnik	c	14	57	Mexico C*	s	17	63	S Francisco*	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Athens	s	17	63	Faro	f	17	63	Miami*	f	27	81	Santiago*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bahrain				Florence	c	15	59	Milan	r	10	50	Seoul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barbados*	f	29	84	Frankfurt	c	4	39	Montreal*	sn	-13	9	Singapore	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barcelona	f	15	59	Funchal	s	20	68	Moscow	c	-1	30	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut	f	18	64	Geneva	r	2	36	Munich	c	9	48	Strasbourg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belgrade	s	14	57	Gibraltar	r	16	61	Nairobi	cl	25	77	Sydney	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Berlin	c	3	37	Helsinki	c	-4	25	Naples	c	16	61	Tangier	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda*	c	19	66	Hongkong	s	19	66	New Delhi	s	20	68	Tel Aviv	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	f	13	55	Innsbruck	r	10	50	New York*	f	3	37	Tenerife			
Boulogne	s	8	46	Istanbul	f	12	54	Nice	s	17	63	Tokyo	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bordeaux	th	9	48	Jiddah	s	31	88	Oslo	sn	-2	28	Toronto*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	c	9	48	Jo'burg	f	19	66	Ottawa				Tunis	s	21	[illegible]
Budapest	s	12	54	Karachi				Paris	r	8	46	Valencia	s	15	[illegible]
Buen Aires*				Las Palmas	c	23	73	Peking				Vancouver*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cairo				Lisbon	f	11	52	Perth	s	25	77	Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cape Tn	s	32	90	Locarno	sn	1	34	Prague	fg	0	32	Vienna	c	11	[illegible]
C'blanca	c	18	64	L Angeles*	s	14	55	Reykjavik	c	3	37	Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chicago*	s	-18	00	Luxembg	c	6	43	Rhodes	s	16	61	Washingtn*	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cologne	c	6	43	Madrid	f	8	46	Riyadh	s	17	63	Zurich			

* denotes Sunday's figures are latest available